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The Daily Commercial.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Private intelligence received at Des Moines, from Senator Grimes, now in Europe, is to the effect that his health is failing fast, and that it is very probable he will not survive the journey home.

Gen. David Atwood, editor of the Madison *State Journal*, has been elected to Congress from the Second Wisconsin District, to fill the place of Hon. B. F. Hopkins, deceased. There was no organized opposition to Mr. Atwood.

It is said that bankers, brokers, insurance companies and business men in all parts of the North have sent word to the Southern lawyers and business men that they shall not take advantage of the recent decision of the Supreme Court, relative to contracts and mortgages.

A Byron banquet is to be given in New York on the 25th of April next, the anniversary of Byron's final departure from England, by a large number of prominent bankers and lawyers, who propose by this homage to the poet to testify their approbation of the slanders heaped upon his memory.

Havana dispatches state that twenty-five Cubans and Americans have been murdered in the streets of Havana since the funeral of Castanon.

The appointment of General Jordan as Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban armies is fully confirmed. The Cuban Congress, composed of a great part of members chosen at the election last fall, made the change.

The Faculty of the College of New York dismissed eighty-six students last week for proving deficient at examination.

At the meeting yesterday of the creditors of Halstead, Stiles & Co., woolen goods importers, of White street, New York, it was agreed to accept a compromise of sixty-five per cent., payable at three, nine and twelve months.

The west side elevated railway, New York, will be opened to the public March 1st.

The Western Freedman's Aid Commission held the annual meeting of its Cincinnati branch to-day. Reports from the various officers indicate that the educational work among freedmen is progressing satisfactorily. Over fifty hundred colored teachers have been furnished to the common schools of the South. The commission has received during the year $20,000. They complain that while the demands on them have increased, their receipts are falling off.

A Cincinnati telegram says: Miss Sallie Linebaugh, from this city, jumped from the steamer Mary Ament late last night, four miles above New Richmond, Ohio, and has not been seen since. She claims to have been the wife of Captain Martin, lost on the Maggie Hays. Since the disaster she has shown signs of mental aberration. There is no doubt it was a case of suicide.

A great national shooting festival is to be held at Cincinnati on the first of September next.

The charter election in Syracuse, New York, Tuesday was closely contested. The Republicans re-elected Mayor Clark by 356 majority, and one Overseer of the Poor and one Justice. The Democrats elected one Justice, one Overseer of the Poor and two Assessors. On Supervisors the Republicans have a majority of two. The Common Council stands five Democrats to three Republicans.

At a special term of the Supreme Court, held in Brooklyn on Tuesday, Judge Pratt, the recent decision of Chief Justice Chase, holding that the principal and interest of all contracts entered into prior to the passage of the Legal Tender act of July 11th, 1862, are payable in gold, was practically applied in the case of Jonathan Lake vs. Henry C. Bookbinder and others. Plaintiff sued to foreclose a mortgage for three thousand dollars dated July 1st, 1862. Judge Pratt gave judgment in favor of plaintiff, on principal and interest, to be paid in gold, or the equivalent of gold in greenbacks, acting under the United States Supreme Court decision above referred to.

The funeral of the late John J. Roe, of St. Louis, takes places to-day. The Mayor has issued a proclamation, requesting that all business be suspended during the ceremonies.

The new bridge over the Ohio at Louisville is to be dedicated to-day.

There was a very large meeting of Odd Fellows in Cincinnati last night, at which it was determined to organize immediately a company to erect a splendid Odd Fellows Temple, with a capital stock of one million of dollars, in shares of twenty-five dollars each. The members from each lodge in the city will become corporators, and will apply to the Secretary of State for a charter to-day.

Orders have been received at the United States Armory at Springfield to manufacture ten thousand Remington breech-loaders for use in the navy.

Ex-Secretary Seward and family arrived at Key West yesterday *en route* to New York.

The Maryland Legislature and City Councils of Baltimore have tendered hospitalities to the officers of the Monarch.

The case of the State Treasurer against the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, has been heard before the Court of Errors next week, is the most important pecuniarily ever tried in Connecticut. It relates to the taxation of insurance companies in the hands of Mutual Insurance Companies, and involves direct issues of principle much more. The main question raised under the section of the law on which the suit is brought is, whether the tax is a tax upon franchise or upon property, and there is an incidental point whether the payment of such dividends declared but not paid constitute a part of the property of corporations.

The friends of prohibition held a Convention in Boston yesterday. Whiting Griswold presided. Speeches were made by several prominent temperance men. Resolutions were passed in favor of a prohibitor law and looking to the formation of a third political party were adopted. The Convention was not large.

Owing to the freight blockade at Nashville, shipments to points in Georgia and other Atlantic seaboard States are being made from Louisville via Baltimore.

The Darien canal expedition, headed by the steamer *Lepsig*, arrived at Aspinwall on the 9th inst., all well.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 16, 1870.

OPPOSITION TO SECTARIAN SCHOOLS.

The anti-sectarian resolution-question excites much attention. It is under discussion in the Legislature, and much opposition is shown to the taxation of citizens for their support. A petition for the Governor, calling his attention to the unconstitutionality of such a tax, and asking that it be repealed, was presented. It authorizes the support of such institutions out of money collected as excise fees, is receiving signatures.

HALF A CENTURY OF LIFE.

Susan B. Anthony celebrated her fiftieth birthday last evening at the rooms of the Woman's Bureau, No. 49 East Twenty-third street. The richly furnished parlors of the establishment were filled with ladies. The ladies outnumbered the gentlemen.

THE FRENCH MISSION OFFERED TO PARADOL.

The *Evening Post* says: Our private correspondence fully confirms the report that the French mission to the United States has been offered to M. Prevost Paradol. Whether M. Paradol will accept the position has not transpired, but the presumption is that he will.

INJUNCTION GRANTED.

In the Supreme Court to-day an injunction was granted, on the complaint of Sanders W. Johnston, against the Kansas Pacific Railroad Company and others, agents of the Company in this city, from parting with any money proceeds of the second gold loan of said Company now being negotiated. An order to show cause why the loan should not be prohibited was also granted. The amount of charges that an arrangement has been made by which the bonds tendered by said company and its land grants by Congress have been transferred to H. M. Shoemaker & Co., is the one of the Directors personally, and in fraud of the rights of stockholders, and that their profits therefrom amount to 20 per cent. of the capital of the Company.

FUNERAL OF ISAAC GREENWALD.

The obsequies of Isaac Greenwald, murdered in Havana, took place this morning from No. 31 Bowery, and was attended by several Hebrew societies. The Turkish Consul was present. At the request of the relatives no public demonstration was made.

MIDNIGHT MURDERS.

The Brooklyn master mechanics and master builders, at a meeting to-day, expressed a determination to arrest the course of such midnight assassinations as the murder of the late Mr. Voorhees.

ATTACK ON REVENUE OFFICERS.

Several revenue officers, while seizing a still in Dickson's alley, Brooklyn, were attacked by a mob, and would have been severely handled but for the arrival of the police, who dispersed the assailants.

DESTRUCTION OF CAPITAL STOCK.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Pacific Mail Company to-day, the majority of those present favored the reduction of the capital stock from twenty to ten millions, and a memorial to the Legislature to that effect was drawn up.

THE RELAPSING FEVER.

The Board of Health has resolved that the relapsing fever is not of sufficient extent and severity to cause public alarm, or to require extraordinary action upon the part of this Board. This action, it is said, is because they have urged the spending $25,000 in hospitals.

FUNERAL OF MR. HARPER.

The funeral of Mr. Harper will take place tomorrow at the Sands street Methodist Episcopal Church, Brooklyn. Mr. Harper during his illness made choice of persons who should act as pall-bearers of the funeral, comprising four of the trustees of the church, and four of the oldest employees of Harper & Bros.

WIFE MURDER.

Margaret Sheridan, aged thirty, residing at No. 357 West Forty-first street, was shot and instantly killed, to-night, by her husband, Thomas. Mrs. Sheridan separated from her husband three years ago, and has since lived with Michael Powers, by whom she had one child. The murderer attempted to escape, but was secured.

FRUIT JARS.

The manufacturers and dealers in fruit jars of this and neighboring States met to-day, at the Astor House, and appointed a committee to settle their conflicting interests.

THE CUBAN LEAGUE.

At a meeting of the Cuban League of America this evening, Gen. McMahon presided. General Rufus Ilsley was appointed. The league has prepared a petition to be presented to Congress, demanding a recognition of the belligerent rights of Cuba.

A JUST SENTENCE.

Francis P. Mills, charged with assault and battery with intent to kill his wife, was found guilty and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

ARRIVAL OF MR. BURT.

Mr. Burt, the English solicitor employed by the Protective Committee of the English Bondholders, arrived to-day.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

The Georgia Case a Puzzle

The Senate Judiciary Committee Make no Progress with It—The Traffickers in Cadetships—S. Newton Pettis, of Meadville, said to be One of Them—Government Purchase of Osage Indian Lands—The Tariff Bill Regarded as a Dead Measure—Contested Election Cases.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 16, 1870.

The Georgia Case.

The Georgia case proves to be a hard nut for the Senate Judiciary Committee to crack. They spent the whole of to-day's session at it, and ended the morning just where they began. They are almost unanimous in dislike at the way in which things have been managed since the passage of the December reconstruction act, the chief cause of complaint being that General Terry held a military inquiry as to the eligibility or members of the Legislature. Some of the Committee men say this action was a clear and palpable violation of the spirit of that act, while others content themselves with saying it was contrary to the genius of our institutions. It must be added in behalf of General Terry that his proceedings were over and over again sanctioned by the President and Cabinet, as they doubtless will be by Congress. The Committee hold that it is best, however, to get through with the reconstruction business as soon as possible, and they will probably bring in a bill for the restoration of the State with the Legislature as it now stands. Governor Bullock and other State officials set up the claim that they are now entitled to hold their several positions for the whole period for which they were elected, beginning at the present time. The Committee will reject this claim quite decidedly, and probably signify in a written report that a new and regular election must be held next fall. The Senate, however,

The Daily Commercial.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17, 1870.

THE Cincinnati *Enquirer* takes pains to prove that the Democratic party is "a unit" against the American Policy of Protection, and in favor of the foreign policy of free trade. We hope that this Democratic organ will stick to its text in the struggle that is at hand on this question.

THE great orator of Europe, CASTELAR, the leader of the Spanish Republicans, has written a remarkable letter to a Vienna liberal paper, in which he predicts, not only a Spanish Republic, but a confederation of European republics on the plan of the American federal system, and ultimately an United States of the world. He pays a glowing tribute to America, "that paradise of the future."

THE way some of the Democratic papers are advising to avert the Fifteenth Amendment, is to enjoin the Secretary of State from declaring the amendment adopted, by a bill in equity in the Supreme Court. Others, and among them prominent papers in New York, advise that the amendment shall be ignored, and a stand taken upon the defensive in whatever action may follow. We shall see. The Republicans certainly do not desire that this issue shall be raised, but they will not shrink from meeting it.

THE attempt to create the impression that Mr. DAWES has placed himself in a position antagonistic to the President is based on the misrepresentation of the facts. The efforts of that member in the interest of economy have the earnest support of General GRANT, as they have of the whole country. Mr. DAWES is sustained by the House on nearly every vote, and it is gratifying to note that his views concerning the appropriations have prevailed. In this the country has been saved many millions and the administration a great peril.

THE Erie Railroad got through the New York Legislature a law last year like the Fort Wayne bill, that went through our Legislature with such a "whirl," as General CASS phrased it. This year the New York Legislature will repeal the Erie law, and HOFFMAN will have the felicity of unmaking the mischief he created by signing the bill. That act disgraced him, for it tumbled him from the pinnacle of a representative of opposition to special legislation, to a mere "slave of the ring" of FISK, GOULD & Co.

WE have been in the regular receipt of the Senate and House Journals required by the Constitution, and have them up to February 5th, last week's Journals not having arrived yet. The law requires that "each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings and publish them weekly." This is being done, the Legislature is complying with the requirements of the law, and the journals are a great improvement on BERGNER'S *Record*. But notwithstanding all the law requires is being performed, the jobbers are still clamoring for a *Record*.

THE Harrisburg *Telegraph* is not certain that the money to pay the border war claims ought to be taken directly out of the treasury, but suggests a "pincher," which was proposed by the treasury ring last winter and defeated. It says the oil interest does not pay one cent of National or State taxes, and it would be well to look for some funds from that source. The oil producers will be surprised when they learn that they do not pay one cent of taxes, and they will doubtless ask for a return of the amounts received by the State officials from them last year—the Columbia Oil Company having paid the State on its earnings $10,316, the Central Petroleum Company $16,000, and a score of other companies smaller sums, independent of the federal tax.

COL. FORNEY says that Col. MCCLURE is wrong concerning CAMERON'S expulsion from LINCOLN'S Cabinet, and that Judge CHASE, from whom Senator WILSON and *Lippincott's Magazine* obtained their version, will probably reply through Senator WILSON to Col. MCCLURE. This gentleman says he saw Mr. LINCOLN'S note of dismissal to Mr. CAMERON; therefore he cannot be far wrong. Nor is his statement inconsistent with the version of Judge CHASE, who, we believe, became acquainted with the matter to "fix it up" and save appearances for CAMERON, after the act of dismissal. We are glad that attention has been turned to the subject. There are phases of it which have not been touched, and which this agitation will be likely to bring out, and in a manner, we will add, not much to the credit of CAMERON.

PHASES OF RECONSTRUCTION.

The debates in the Senate on the Virginia bill have been substantially repeated on the Mississippi bill. The practical question discussed is as to the power of Congress to impose fundamental conditions on a State, and enforce them after its admission to representation. On this important point a serious division has arisen in the Republican ranks in Congress. A majority of the Republicans of both the Senate and House, doubtless believe in the possession and the exercise of this power by Congress, whenever the occasion may arise. But there is a strong minority of the party that radically dissents, and maintains the ground that no control can be exercised by Congress over the States except under such powers as are specifically conceded by the Constitution. As a consequence, the minority holds that the conditions imposed upon Virginia are worthless. In the House, the Virginia bill, pure and simple, without any conditions, was passed by a union of Democrats and Republicans, but when it went to the Senate the conditions were attached by a close vote, and the House agreed to the amended bill to get it out of the way. The same questions are now before Congress on the bill admitting Mississippi. The anti-conditionists have been reinforced by the two Virginia Senators, and the question whether Mississippi shall come in without any fundamental conditions was to have been decided in the Senate yesterday. The vote will be close, but the conditions will probably be carried, as a number of Senators who originally opposed their application to Virginia, take the position that all the reinstated States should be treated alike. They therefore will vote to anex them to the Mississippi bill, although they are on the record against the principle.

It is possible that out of this question of the power of Congress over the reconstructed States grave complications may arise in the future which will endanger the unity of the Republican party. The differences on the subject are radical and well defined. On the one side we have such men as MORTON, SUMNER, DRAKE and HOWARD, and on the other in opposition to the power, CARPENTER, TRUMBULL, CONKLING, SCOTT and SHERMAN, and in the House BINGHAM, LOGAN, FARNSWORTH and others. There are strong men enlisted in behalf of both theories, and the principles involved have been at the foundation of political differences in this country since the Constitution was framed, and parties took their rise under it.

In the Senate on Monday last the question was debated on the Mississippi bill. Senator CARPENTER, of Wisconsin, argued that the imposition of fundamental conditions upon a State was a dangerous heresy. He said:

> Congress might continue Mississippi as a Territory or admit the State to representation, but could not treat her as in both conditions the same time. When the admission of her Senators or Representatives declared Mississippi to be a State in the Union, further Congressional control could only be exercised under the Constitution. The doctrine advanced by the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Morton,) that the superintendence of Congress over a State continued after its admission as a State, was a fallacy whose danger could not be over-estimated. To show the evil consequences necessarily resulting from such a doctrine, he referred to the probable action of a Democratic majority in the Senate ten years hence in repealing these conditions; and upon the same principle a Democratic majority in the future could not only impose like conditions upon Massachusetts and other New England States. The would be entirely in accordance with the precedent now established. Mr. Carpenter explored his Republican colleagues not to insist upon a principle which will never stand the test of the Constitution. Referring to changes of condition with the people of a State, he said he would leave his own action to the people or forum entitled to consider it—the Republicans of Wisconsin.

Senator MORTON, of Indiana, was the principal speaker in opposition to Senator CARPENTER, although Governor YATES, of Illinois, interposed some remarks about CARPENTER advocating the old theories of secession, and charged him with rebellion against party discipline. The Illinois Senator was slightly "indisposed," and his remarks possess no value. Governor MORTON, however, spoke earnestly, and with his usual force of reasoning. He claimed that the doctrine advanced by Senator CARPENTER was the old States rights doctrine, and concluded as follows:

> In reply to what the Senator from Wisconsin had said about Webster turning in his grave, he (Morton) would only remark that the enunciation of such a doctrine was enough to make the dry bones of Calhoun rattle with joy. The effect of it was to deny to Congress the power to preserve a republican government in a State, but would require Congress to wait until it was destroyed. Was the Republican party ready to stand by that doctrine? He thought not. Other doctrine that the power to build up implied the power to preserve. He denied the assumption upon which arguments based this subject were based—that to secure a republican form of government in a State it was essential that the means should be uniform in every case. Congress was to be the judge not only of the means but of their mode of application. In a State where the people could not read or write what better guarantee of a republican government than the general education of the people? He would tell Gov. Walker, of Virginia, who had recently asserted that the power of Congress over that State had been exhausted, that he was mistaken; that Congress had the power to prevent the violation of the conditions upon which Virginia had been restored.

Thus the question stands. We have directed particular attention to the debate, because the important points were swallowed up in the routine of congressional reports. Just now, in some respects, the discussion seems to be idle theorizing based on the possibilities of the future, but these possibilities may become actualities, and vital, living political questions.

THE BIBLE AND THE SCHOOLS.

The Cincinnati school question has never been regarded as a merely local question. The first discussions in which the subject gave rise were shared in by the whole country, the steps taken for the arrangement of the dispute have been watched with anxiety by all good citizens, and the final settlement will be every where received with marked satisfaction or dissatisfaction. In Cincinnati principles and precedents will be established certain to exert a decided, if not overwhelming influence upon our entire common school system. Though not finally settled, the question has been advanced a step on the way towards settlement by the decision of the Superior Court, published in our paper of yesterday. The Court, by declaring perpetual the injunction which they were asked to set aside, render a decision in favor of the use of the Bible in the public schools. Judge TAFT dissented from the opinion of a majority of the Court, and the case will be carried up to the Supreme Court.

Throughout the country we suppose this decision will be heard of with approval by a large majority of the people. The Book of which the use is objected to, quite apart from its supernatural origin and religious purposes, is a venerable monument of our language. A considerable acquaintance with it is essential to even a moderately good education. No person can be said to possess a decent knowledge of his own language, if his reading has been entirely and exclusively in the books of his own century. And with reference to this philological advantage, no other English volume is so rich as a source of the language, or so well adapted to school purposes as the King JAMES Bible. All the sects, except one, approve its use, and even well informed Infidels would not desire their children to grow up in ignorance of a book which has so powerfully influenced English literature in all its departments. On the other hand, the clamor against the employment of the volume in schools is inspired by the most bigoted and exclusive sectarianism. The clamor is also avowedly merely the beginning of an agitation of which the object is to abolish our school system altogether.

The people may as well understand the matter at once. No education not rigorously popish, no schools not under priestly supervision and control will ever satisfy the sect who are keeping up such an ado about the Bible in the schools. As it is absolutely certain that nothing will be gained by the concession, why make it? If by the concession demanded, all our people, Catholic and Protestant, could be united in support of the school system, many earnest Protestants would, no doubt, be willing to make it. But since we know that the withdrawal of the Bible would produce no such result, why destroy the prestige of the schools in the estimation of multitudes of Protestants by weakly yielding to prejudices generated by a religious and political system antagonistic to our free institutions? Why lessen the aggregate opinion in favor of the schools with no prospect of increasing the number of their friends?

UNIFORM TIME.

We invite the attention of our readers to the article on a Uniform Time, which is completed in our columns this morning. Our correspondent writes on a subject of general interest, and the end proposed is certainly desirable and seems to be easily reached.

It is only needed, as he remarks, that the custom which necessarily suggests to a suburban resident of setting his watch by the city time should be followed by the city itself, our railways and the whole country, with reference to a common standard, at some central point.

We should suppose no better place could be chosen than Pittsburgh itself, which is nearly central between the eastern railroad termini, and the Mississippi, which is at the center of telegraph lines radiating along the great roads which link us to East and West, and has a well equipped observatory in the immediate neighborhood; but setting aside our local claims there seems to need only the concurrence of our leading railway directors to our getting one time the country over. The railways have more to gain by the change than any body, and some action is, we hear, already being taken in the matter by Western roads, which talk of uniting on Chicago time as a common basis. In Chicago, as we see by their papers, the City Council has been discussing the advantage of substituting for the present irregular plan of a watchman to strike on the city bell the time supplied by a neighboring jeweller, that of having the bells struck automatically by the astronomical clock in the Dearborn observatory, somewhat after the plan our correspondent mentions as used in London, and which he might have added is being generally introduced in European cities.

We were told of a discussion that rose sometime since, at one of our banks, as to whether some directors were late at an appointed meeting. To settle a dispute, in which each was sure his watch was right by some "regulator," a messenger was sent round to the different jewellers with a good watch and instructions to compare their time with each other. The discrepancy was found to be in the regulators, which varied, in extreme cases, nearly a quarter of an hour. This was some time ago, but if it is still true that no two of these agree well with each other, it is not fairly chargeable to the jewellers, nor to their clocks, of which many have the best of their kind, but to the want of a standard which all could use on an equal footing. The time is probably struck on our bells as well as it can be done under the present system, but jewellers here or elsewhere have probably no disposition to concede superior accuracy to the one who supplies time to the city by adopting his in place of their own.

The agreement to unite in using any independent common standard might easily be made by the trade, and we should gladly see it done as a small but essential addition to the public convenience.

FAILURE OF THE COUNCIL.

The utter failure of the great Council to accomplish the chief objects for which it was called together becomes more manifest every day. To influence the Eastern Churches in the direction of reunion in the fold of Rome, to impart to the syllabus the sanction of the Catholic world, and especially to have the dogma of the Pope's personal infallibility proclaimed without discussion and through an immediate divine *afflatus*, these were universally understood to be the cherished results hoped for from the grand assembly. Alas, the vanity of even Papal hopes in this world! Among cable dispatches in our paper of yesterday was one from Rome making mention of an important step taken by the Armenians. The Armenian Church, one of the four communions forming the great schismatic Church of the East, have rejected the authority of their Patriarch, because they believed him unable to resist the encroachments of the Pope. Though denounced by Rome as schismatics, and not as heretics, the Armenians have for centuries entertained for the Pope of Rome a hatred, compared with which Protestant hatred is love. They are still true to the conviction that "the roots of Ararat are deeper than those of Rome." Another dispatch informs us that the Protest of Austria and other Catholic powers against the Syllabus has been transmitted to the Council. It is, we suppose, hardly to be doubted that such a remonstrance will be respected.

In regard to the proposed declaration of infallibility, the hostility of large numbers of the bishops to the measure has become so pronounced that even Protestant sojourners in the Holy City are able to report the speeches denunciatory of it made outside of the Council by eminent ecclesiastics. A few days ago a distinguished French prelate said, in the presence of a correspondent, "the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope cannot be forced upon France, though forty Councils should support it." This prelate was not DUPANLOUP. The same prelate went on to declare that, "in his opinion, the proclamation of Papal infallibility would lead, and that very speedily, to an attempt at affecting the whole foreign policy of France by a clerical crusade against the existing state of things in Italy." Abundant indications are almost daily appearing that the attonicy of the French ecclesiastical system and the liberties of the Gallican church are still precious to the ablest bishops of that nation. These rights and privileges maintained with such vast ability and learning through so many centuries, do not seem likely to be surrendered now. It is mortifying to learn that a majority of the American bishops, who, in virtue of their political relations, ought to have shone as the champions of the utmost freedom compatible with their office, are earnest supporters of ultramontanism. The fact is surely significant, and its meaning will probably not be overlooked by thoughtful republicans, either here or in Europe.

THE CASE OF DR. SCHOEPPE.

The Law Applicable to His Case—Opinions as to His Guilt.

The bill relative to writs of error in homicide cases, commonly called "the Schoeppe bill," and which was passed over the Governor's veto on Tuesday, provides that in all cases of murder a writ of error to the Supreme Court from the Court below trying the case shall be of right, and may be sued out by the defendant or defendants, as in civil cases. In all cases removed into the Supreme Court under this act, it is made the duty of the Judges to review both the law and the evidence, and to determine whether the ingredients necessary to constitute murder in the first degree shall have been found to exist, and if not so proved, then to reverse the judgment and send the same back for a new trial, or to enter such judgment as the laws of the State require. The case of Dr. Schoeppe was before the Supreme Court last week on a writ of error at common law, and the Court on Monday decided that they could find no error in the record of the Court below, which was the only question they could legally entertain, not being clothed with the power to review the evidence, the bill of exceptions and the charge of the Court. Under the new law the Judges are now clothed with that power, and Dr. Schoeppe's case will doubtless come before them again, when the whole case will be reopened, and the testimony and verdict reviewed.

Relative to the guilt of Dr. Schoeppe the belief seems to be almost universal that the evidence was insufficient to warrant a conviction of murder in the first degree, and many hold that Miss Steinecke did not die from violence, but from natural causes. The Philadelphia *Post* says he "has been tried by a judge of far more wisdom than any jury—by the public and the press, and the almost universal opinion is that he was convicted upon insufficient grounds, and that there is no proof that Miss Steinecke died by poison." The Philadelphia *Day*in concluding that Schoeppe is innocent, says: "Indeed it is very confidently asserted that conclusive evidence exists that she was not murdered at all, and no intelligent person will assert that there is any reliable evidence that she was poisoned, as charged by the Court that convicted Schoeppe." The Philadelphia *Inquirer* says: There is no question whatever that there is a reasonable doubt as to the incompetency and irregularity of the chemical examination, and it is everywhere contended that the prisoner was not given the benefit of those reasonable doubts at the time of the trial."

"DEAD HEADS" in the navy, is the expressive caption given by a correspondent of the *Tribune*, who figures up that the country is the possessor of thirty admirals and seventy-seven commodores with subordinates to match. Eighteen rear-admirals and fifty-two commodores are nominally on the retired and reserved list, but some sort of duty has been found for fourteen of the admirals and twelve of the commodores so that they get full pay,—five admirals being on "special duty" at Washington, though what special duty there can be there except to flatter admiral Porter, we do not see,—and altogether there are sixty-three admirals and commodores engaged in active duty of some kind, though very few are at sea, and our whole naval force does not number over 10,000 men.

THE proposition in the House of Representatives to change the mode of settling contested election cases by drawing a special jury of nine members in each case on the old plan of the House of Commons, was defeated in the House on Monday, on a motion to suspend the rules, by 78 to 104, not the required two-thirds, but not even a majority. The plan proposed by General Paine is similar to that in force in Pennsylvania. The practicability of throwing all these contests into the United States Courts has been suggested, but it is thought by some that the Constitution stands in the way of this because of the provision which makes it incumbent upon each House to be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members.

THE testimony thus far adduced by the Military Committee of the House in regard to the sale of cadetships at West Point and Annapolis, is damaging in the extreme. The general sentiment of the House is that the members found to be implicated must be expelled. On Tuesday, a letter was laid before the Committee from a Southern member of Congress said to be Whittemore, of South Carolina, offering to sell a naval cadetship to a New York broker for five hundred dollars. The sale was not effected with the party to whom the letter was addressed. The committee are very close in their proceedings, refusing to give a particle of information, fearing that it might spoil their work by putting the guilty parties upon their guard.

GEN. MCMAHON, late Minister to Paraguay, in a lecture in New York, on Monday night, described Lopez, as a man of courtly, dignified manners, winning and pleasing—a description which Gen. McMahon doubted not would surprise many who had heard Lopez described as a monster and an assassin. The General charged that the agent of the allies obtained lists of all the executions that had taken place in Paraguay and charged them as murders upon Lopez. Perhaps his greatest crime was that for five years he had heroically defended his country against a most formidable combination of enemies. Lopez is still lively in Paraguay—although the telegraph every week or two, as it has done for a couple of years, makes a fearful dispensation of him.

THE purification of primary elections is the object of a bill now pending in the Ohio Legislature. It provides for advertising the meetings, with a statement of the conditions upon which suffrage is to be exercised; for legal officers to conduct them, empowered to administer a legal oath, the violation of which may be punished by fine and imprisonment. The evils growing out of the present system are so enormous that it is well worth while to try what virtue there is in an enactment of this character. If it works well it will be adopted by all the States, and effect great good in the purification of our politics.

THE Paris Omnibus Company have an ingenious piece of machinery to help their conductors to count their passengers accurately. The number of passengers is marked by a dial, worked by a lever, which can only be put back by unlocking with a particular key, kept by the inspector. But a cunning cheat of a conductor was lately caught in the act of unscrewing the plate at the back of the tell-tale, in order to falsify the number on the dial plate.

THE latest canal project is one to commence on the St. Mary's river, Georgia, and from thence pass through Florida to some point on the Gulf. Such a canal, it is claimed, would create a great revolution in the carrying trade of the Gulf and Western States, and benefit not only the South, but the whole country. It is believed by many that a canal joining the waters of the St. Mary's and Suwanee rivers could be made at comparatively little cost.

THE Springfield *Republican*, inventive if not accurate, makes the *Sun* a subject of its imagination, and says that we propose to run "Gen. George H. Thomas for the next Presidency." As we have not made any such proposition, the dyspeptic wit which the *Republican* appends to its assertion is altogether lost.—*N. Y. Sun.*

What is there in the imputation of the *Republican* the *Sun* should resent? The proposition to run George H. Thomas for President is nothing to be ashamed of, surely.

A NEW revolution in poor, distracted Mexico, with the declaration of Juarez as Dictator, seems to have brought Santa Anna to the surface again. He turned up in Havana on Sunday last, *en route* for Vera Cruz. Captain General de Rodas, however, spoiled his plans, by ordering him to leave the island on the first steamer, and positively refusing to allow the old veteran to proceed to Mexico.

THE former interest in Valentine's Day was not realized this year, and it is creditable to the good sense of the public that such is the fact. Its degeneracy it is a huge nuisance, with which well bred people will have little to do. The decline, we are pleased to note, has been general over the country, and it is to be hoped that it may continue till the nuisance is extinct.

QUEEN VICTORIA specially recommends the English Parliament to make arrangements for observations of the "transit of Venus" in 1874—a very elegant idea for an excellent royal earthly lady. The presidency of the commission would be an appropriate position for the Prince of Wales, always provided that her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales approves.

THE *World* continues its warfare on the Tammany ring of New York, in a regular Democratic slaughter-house fashion. It speaks of the sachems mildly as "the thieves of Tammany," "the thieves of the Ring," &c. It is all about the new charter for the city. The *Herald* has the place of organ to the wigwam. Hoffman's troubles are beyond computation.

UNIFORM TIME.

A New System for Securing It for the Whole Country.

In the Greenwich Observatory are numerous clocks, one, the "principal mean time clock" as it is called, being specially charged with the duty of distributing the time to all England, which it does without the intervention of any one, while by a method devised by Mr. Airy, the Astronomer Royal, it can itself be electrically controlled, so that without its being stopped, it is kept right to the minute fraction of a second.

Now though it is common to hear a clock called "exactly right," such an expression does in reality mean only that the error of the clock is not known, for the crucial test of constant comparison with the stars, by day as well as night, shows that error always exists, even in the most perfect clocks. Accordingly, clocks of high order, and where close accuracy is essential, have the exact error ascertained, and frequently entered, that allowance may be made; or else some refined device like that of Mr. Airy's becomes needful, by which the error can be caused to disappear as it rises. Having a clock thus rendered practically perfect by the hourly comparison with the heavenly bodies, and which, from one year's end to another, will be kept within a second of absolute truth, let us examine the method by which any person in England can take advantage of the precision secured for a purely scientific end at such trouble and expense.

Without attempting to describe exactly the mechanism which transmits the time, the general reader may conceive its action by supposing a telegraph wire from Dover, where a gun is to be fired at noon, to be put with one from Deal, where a time-ball is dropped, and fifty others from railways, town halls, church clocks, etc., throughout the country, altogether, to a telegraph office in London, whence a single wire connecting them with Greenwich, there enters the Observatory. The standard clock contains one wheel which revolves once a day, another once an hour, and another which revolves once a minute, placed behind each other. If the clock were stopped at noon, a hole bored through all three wheels near the edge and our wire passed through it and fastened into each, thus locking them; and if next, (the clock remaining still), the wire was cut through on each side, between the wheels, the electric current could run while the ends remained in contact, as well as before.

This being understood, let us now start the clock, immediately the wheels move on at their different rates, each carrying its piece of the wire with it. They will come back into their old position in just twenty-four hours, that is, the next day at noon the wires will be brought into line again for an instant. During that instant the road is open to the electric current which flashes through, thus at the very moment of noon, the spark passes to the gun at Dover, or the signal at Deal, or the clock at London.

This description is intended to give only the general reader an idea of the means, which in practice receive many modifications which do not impair themselves to any one familiar with the telegraphic apparatus.

The clock, however, does much more than this. Without any expensive addition to its machinery, and with entire absence of failure, it controls numerous distant timekeepers, whose pendulums swing together with each other and the standard's, requiring no pains to keep them so. This is a device which secures this is very simple and may be seen in any Observatory fitted with recent apparatus. In the sidereal clock, for instance, lately constructed for that in Albany, by Frodsham of London, and which embodies the best device of the kind, is an electric wire, which can be joined to the main line of telegraph, and at each second the current is broken by the escape wheel, one of whose teeth strikes a jewel, which separates for an instant two delicate springs, one tipped with gold and one with platinum, through which the galvanic current flows uninterruptedly when the clock is at rest.

When this wire is connected with any of our telegraph lines, each beat of the clock is audibly repeated at any distance. In the recent longitude between the Observatory in Allegheny and that at Cambridge, the two clocks were thus electrically joined with recording apparatus at each station; every beat of the clock in Cambridge, Massachusetts, being audibly repeated in Allegheny, while the officers of the coast survey at Cambridge, were able to compare the beat of their clock with ours, (six hundred miles from them,) *by the ear.*

On a subsequent evening the same experiment was repeated on a still grander scale, every beat of a clock in London being sent to Cambridge and back across the Continent, the sound of the returning messenger being heard, before the clock could beat twice.

Any one who has given attention to practical electricity is aware of the large number of devices for keeping time by its aid, and that few of them answer to the expectations of the inventors.

In the English Patent Office these devices are registered to the number of well to ward a hundred, and new ones are still appearing, and yet abundantly ingenious as many are, very few at all answer the wants of actual business. The trouble with nearly all of them is that the clock must stop if the electric current is interrupted, and no care can provide against such accident.

What is needed is something which every one can readily understand, which will not get out of order, and, above all, which will go as an independent timekeeper if the wires fail from any cause to transmit the current.

All this has fortunately been secured by an arrangement so very simple that it need only be seen to be understood.

It is well known that if a wire be wound into a coil it becomes magnetic when a galvanic current pushes. If, for instance, we wind a telegraph wire many times round the finger, when this is withdrawn, the hollow coil will be found to attract a piece of iron which it will tend to draw into the place the finger occupied whenever the distant telegraph battery is in action. If we put our coil into the circuit of a common clock whose steel pendulum is vibrating once a second, and cause an electric current to traverse the wire, every second also, it is not hard to see that it will attract the pendulum at every swing, and as the attraction is supposed to be repeated each second, that the clock rate will not be interfered with. But if our clock were to begin to lose, say at the rate of a minute a day, this must commence by its losing a little out of every second, but in this case the attraction would, if repeated exactly on the second, keep it up to its work, and not allow it to begin to lose. In the same way if the clock were beginning to gain, the magnetism of the coil would hold it back, and in either case the first tendency to error would be stopped. The wire might run on to a hundred clocks, and all be thus kept in unison. Of course, the way to secure the essential condition of the attraction repeated each second is to lend the distant extremity of the wire (which may be in another city or State) to the pendulum of a very perfect clock which shall, by touching it, at each swing originate the electric impulses that may keep any number of inferior time keepers to its own exactness.

All this is as forcible as it is simple, and this plan may be said to have every where proved as entirely successful in practice as it is interesting in theory. It is called the "Jones" method from the inventor, and it will be noticed that it only takes the common clocks we are using now, and without alteration or interference, renders each one as reliable as the exactest regulator, while in case of the wires being broken or the current stopped by accident, the clock is left to go as it is going now, it being in case of accident simply deprived of the superior correctness the electric connection bestows.

This plan has been used for about twelve years past through England, and with the most uniform success.

When one clock in Glasgow, for instance, has been set to Greenwich time, a single line of wire unites any number with it, and the clock in the kitchen becomes as good a timekeeper as the clock in the Observatory.

We notice then, that while near clocks can be thus constantly controlled, distant ones, even at the distance of a thousand miles, may be set by a daily or hourly signal, but it is not worth while to dwell longer on the special devices which have proved useful in accomplishing such ends.

The main thing to be sought is *uniformity*, however secured, and this can be had by reference to one common standard.

If the "time" can be thus laid on, like gas or water to every house; if this can be done everywhere with little trouble and less expense, using existing wires without interfering with the business of the telegraph lines, except for a few seconds daily, and making every depot clock from Boston to New Orleans tell the same story, and indicate the same minute, is it not an end to be sought? The contractors of all our leading roads offer increasing facilities for laying by the old system and introducing an improvement which involves no risk and no novelty, for the whole has for the most thorough trial on railroads elsewhere, and has stood the only test worth much in such matters; that of actual experience and of that of practical men.

How many accidents are to be spared us, when this essential condition of safety as well as convenience in railway transportation is once put on a proper footing, and into it gradually the public may be expected to appreciate its advantages, when once tried, we need only look abroad to see.

It is not an unreasonable anticipation that if the time of some central point, between the Mississippi and the Atlantic, were adopted for the roads of the country, and all timekeepers were regulated from one standard, as in the United Kingdom, that the next step which has been taken there would follow here, and that without particular trouble or sudden change, all the timekeepers throughout the country would soon be indicating "railway time," which would be that of some one point, about midway between the Mississippi and Eastern termini of our principal railroad system.

The plan here suggested, is not one for which the writer claims originality; on the contrary, its best recommendation should be that it is old and well tried elsewhere. This country, however, has still to take advantage of it, and here the writer would gladly see it adopted, and be pleased to do what he could to assist in inviting to it public attention and discussion.

S. P. L.

FECHTER as Hamlet is unfavorably criticised by the New York *Sun*, as compared to Booth. "His performance," says that paper, "was a pure piece of mosaic acting, and not equal in symmetry to the performance at that to Mr. Booth's, and wanted entirely the glowing current of life beneath. He glided on a pair of highly polished French skates over the surface of the character, but never broke through to the deep currents beneath. The celebrated dialogue delivered when left thus alone was perhaps the most faultless delivered through the night. It was here, however, a weakness impossible to speak of without tenderness stepping in. No one who loves art can fail to sympathize with Fechter's gallant effort to master a language to which he is an alien, and with the remarkable success which has attended it."

VIRGINIA.

Trouble to Secure Judges—An Excellent Speech from a Colored Senator.

The Virginia Legislature is troubled to find material for judicial offices, owing to the disqualification under the Fourteenth Amendment of the ablest lawyers of the State. It has passed a resolution, however, against the election of any person as judge who is disqualified, until his disabilities are removed by Congress. A few days ago in the Virginia State Senate, Senator Mosby, a colored Radical Republican, and a highly intelligent gentleman, avowed in favor of a general amnesty bill, on the ground that it was required by the public interests. He was pained to say that many of his best and warmest friends—the most influential men of his county—were proscribed, and he felt it his duty to himself and to his constituents to have them freed from these political bonds. Affairs in his section were in a sad and woefully distempered condition, owing chiefly to the fact that gentlemen of standing, character, and influence were excluded from participation in public affairs. Laws like these were long enough in force; the day for their necessity was past and gone, and it is high time they were repealed. For the peace, security and good order of society he wished those men restored to all the rights and immunities of American citizens, and that as early as possible. He urged the appointment of a committee to proceed at once to Washington and urge the passage of the bill introduced by Congress. Said Senator Mosby in conclusion:

> "I am a true born citizen of Virginia, with some of the best and proudest white blood in the old State coursing through my veins. Senators and gentlemen, I am a man and your brother. True also is the blood of the colored man. I am bound by ties of blood to both the races in Virginia. I am an Anglo-Saxon and an Anglo-African, and in the dearest fibre of my heart fo do equal justice to both whites and blacks."

This speech created quite a sensation on the Conservative side of the Senate, but it had a decided and excellent effect. Sentiments like these coming from representatives of the colored race never fail to touch and draw out the kindly feelings of the whites in return.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The agent employed by the Protective Committee of English Erie stockholders who are about to inaugurate, in conjunction with the Ramsey-Eaton party, a legal war against Fisk and Gould, is Mr. Bart, an eminent solicitor of London. He has sailed for the United States, and his arrival in New York is daily expected.

A new Cuban Junta has been organized in New York. Gen. M. L. MeMahon, late United States Minister to Paraguay, is a prominent member.

The transactions of the New York Postoffice with Europe and the West Indies for the past year were as follows: Letters received from Europe, 4,238,885, and from the West Indies, &c., 666,320. The amount of postage collected on the former was $729,358 51, and on the latter, $71,795 64. Letters forwarded to Europe, 5,132,357, and to the West Indies, 393,071. The postage collected on letters to Europe was $657,815, 26, and to the West Indies, $60,570 70. Grand total received and forwarded during that time, 10,681,933, and the postage collected accounted to $1,447,574 60.

The family of a Baltimore tinker were surprised to find a nose and tongue sticking to the parlor ceiling the other day. The husband and father had blown off his head because a mortgage on his house was foreclosed.

Prince Pierre Napoleon, says a Radical paper published at Ajaccio, in Corsica, is known in that island to have killed or wounded no fewer than a dozen peasants, who objected to his riding across their fields during his hunting excursions.

The Prussian Government has military maps of every foot of its territory, so complete that every hill, ravine, brooklet, field and forest, is delineated with perfect accuracy. It is a common boast of Prussian military men, that within eight days 800,000 men can be concentrated to the defense of any single point within the kingdom.

The liberals of North Germany are trying to win Count Bismarck over to the side of the opponents of capital punishment. They have recently published a pamphlet on the subject, in which they assert that at least one-third of the persons beheaded or hung in Germany and Austria during the last twenty-five years were guiltless of the charges on which they were tried and sentenced to death.

The London *Times* says, on the subject of the proposed acquisition of the Bay of Samana by the United States, that there will not be in England in the least degree any wish to hinder the Americans from satisfying the wish of their hearts in the establishment of a colony or dependency, but thinks we have at present sufficient territory to administer and a sufficient population of the African race.

A large immigration from Europe, the coming season, is anticipated. Thousands of frugal and Industrious but half-starved English mechanics will be among the new-comers. Unless there is an improvement in business some of them will find it difficult to obtain work.

An English paper tells a revolting story of the capitain of one of the Waterford cattle steamers. Finding himself short of fuel, he resorted to his live stock to supply his furnaces, burning alive one hundred pigs. And it is said that this is not a solitary example of inhumanity; but the cattle boats plying between the Thames and Hamburg have in more than one instance been guilty of burning their live stock when short of fuel.

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SIMON JOHNSTON,
Cor. Smithfield St. and Fourth Ave.
P. S.--A Fresh Supply of Squire's True Glycerine Soap, Sarg's Vienna Soap, Price's Glycerine Soap, Astringent Red Gum Lozenges, and Muriate of Ammonia Lozenges. These Lozenges are meeting with great success in England, in cases of Relaxed Sore Throat, Bronchitis, etc. Just received.
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DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.
The partnership heretofore existing under the name and style of
D. C. KNEELAND & SON,
Paper Box Manufacturers, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, and the business will hereafter be conducted and accounts settled by D. C. KNEELAND.
Signed D. C. KNEELAND,
CHARLES KNEELAND.
Pittsburgh, Feb. 1st, 1870.

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IN FULL ASSORTMENT.
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A Very Superior Quality of
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IRA B. M'VAY & CO.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 16, 1870.

There is a fair demand for money at bank at the usual rates, on business paper. We find a scarcity of good offerings on the open market, which is generally the case when the banks and regular discount houses are well supplied with money. First-class paper will rarely stand high rates.

—The decline in gold in the face of the legal-tender decision seems to indicate that the speculative clique in New York received a fatal blow in the panic of last September, not so much in what they actually lost as in the exposure of the utter hollowness of all the specious pretences they had so long been using to raise or depress prices, and in the ruin of so many of the merchants whose foolish operations on the Gold Exchange had kept up the business of the speculators. The lesson was a wholesome one, though very severe, and it has produced its results. The conservative *Journal of Commerce*, under its money head, day after day, berated all engaged in gold speculations, and talked in good round terms to the merchants whose purchases kept speculation alive. All sorts of ingenious excuses were assigned for going short of gold, for borrowing it, for being, in fact, in gold dabbling all the time, to keep a stock of gold on hand instead of going into the market and buying it when we need it. But the panic, and the influence of the conservative commercial organization together, have done away with the speculation in gold is dead, and it will probably take as long to produce a resurrection as it has taken in London for the speculators to recover from the prostration following the Overend, Gurney & Co. panic.

No doubt the depression in gold is materially assisted by the determined efforts of the bona fide traders to break down protection. As the gold premium is so much additional protection to domestic manufacturers, the foreign interests have, no doubt, combined to put it down, and keep it there. It must, also, be observed that the interests involved in the legal-tender decision are immense, and that all these are concerned in keeping down the gold premium on account of the difference between gold and green-backs liable to be paid under the decision. This influence is a permanent one—of such magnitude that, if the decision is to stand finally as the law, we really do not see how it can be counteracted sufficiently to put up gold again. It cannot be denied that while the others side is very strong also; that is, that the holders of bonds coming under this law will be and are clamorous in favor of the decision, and would be interested in putting up gold. But the better class of transactions all others in numbers and influence, and we for ap eals to hold away completely.

Since the war our exports have been so abundant, and our bonds so much in demand abroad, that the need for the shipment of gold has failed off wonderfully. Cotton, wheat, flour, petroleum, provisions, and produce generally, are annually available to such an extent as to make our exchanges easy. The supply of bonds for shipment is believed to be about near exhausted. But the passage of the funding bill will put upon the market a vast amount of new bonds that will be in demand abroad, and that will serve to keep our gold at home. The supply of petroleum, cotton and provisions will be larger than ever, and thus afford more means for shipment. It must be observed, also, that our railroad bonds are beginning to find their way to Europe again in considerable amounts, and this movement will increase, as the quantity on the market there is excessive. We apprehend, therefore, not much fluctuation of any kind in prices, and rather more steadiness than we have been accustomed to for several years past.

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close
U. S. Bonds '81	117½	117¾	117¾
U. S. Bonds '62	115	115	114½
U. S. Bonds '64	114½	114½	114½
U. S. Bonds '65	114½	114½	114½
U. S. Bonds, new, '65	113½	113½	113½
U. S. Bonds '67	113½	113½	113½
U. S. Bonds '68	113½	113½	113½
10-40s	113½	113½	113½
Gold	120	119¾	119¾

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

	Feb. 15.	Feb. 16.	Adv.	Dec.
Gold	119½	119¾	¼	
U. S. Bonds, 1881	117½	117¾	¼	
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '62	114½	114¾	¼	
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '64	114½	114½		
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '65, old	114½	114½		
U. S. Bonds, new issue '65	113½	113½		
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s '67	113½	113½		
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '68	113½	113½		
U. S. Bonds, 10-40s	113½	113½	¼	
U. S. Currency	111½	111½	¼	

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo Building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various stations of the New York Boards during the day:

February 16, 1870.	10 00	11 30	12 30	1 30	4 00
	A M	P M	P M	P M	P M
New York Central	127½	127½	127¾	128½	128¾
Erie	25¾	26¼	26¼	26¾	26¾
Harlem		127		127½	
Michigan Central		89½		89½	
Michigan Southern	89¾	89½	89	89½	89
Illinois Central		143			
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	101¾	102¼	102¼	102½	102¾
Chicago and Northwestern	24¾	24¾		24¾	24¾
Do preferred	91¾	91¾	90¾	91¾	92¼
Rock Island	125¾	125¾		125¾	
St. Paul		67¾		67¾	67¾
St. Paul preferred		91¾		91¾	91¾
Toledo and Wabash	47¾	47¾		47¾	47¾
Toledo and Wabash pref		71		71	
Fort Wayne	91¾	91¾	91¾	91¾	92
Chicago and Alton		130½		130½	
Ohio and Mississippi	30¾	30¾		30¾	31
Western Union Telegraph	34¾	34¾		34¾	34¾
Pacific Mail	61¾	61¾		61¾	62
Adams Express	62¾	62		62	62
Wells, Fargo & Co	25¾	25¾		25¾	25¾
American M. U. Ex	36½	37¾	1¼		
U. S. Express	56¾	56¾		56¾	57
Merch. U. Express		85¾			

*Ex-dividend.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building, dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Being represented in the New York Stock Boards every day while in session, he purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the New York brokers. Government, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 15, 1870. }

There was a moderate trade doing to-day in many branches of trade, but we have very little change to note in prices. We quote as follows, which are the wholesale store prices unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—There is a moderate demand for choice to extra apples at $3 00@3 75 ₱ barrel. Poor and mixed lots are nominal in price, ranging from $2 00 up to $2 75 ₱ bbl.

APPLE BUTTER—We quote at 7½@8c ₱ gallon as to quality.

BUTTER—Choice roll butter is in fair demand at 29@33c ₱ lb. Some extra packages sell higher. Common and inferior grades are dull and nominal in price.

BEANS—The receipts are good and the market dull and nominally $2 00@2 50 ₱ bush, as to quality.

BACON AND LARD—We quote S. C. hams at 19@19½c ₱ lb; bacon shoulders at 13@13½c, S. C. shoulders at 14½c; rib sides 16c; clear rib side 16½c; clear sides 17c; lard in tierces 16½@16¾c; lard in buckets 17½@17¾c; lard in kegs 17½@17¾c. F. Sellers & Co.'s caddy lard, in 3 and 5 ₱ packages, 20c ₱ lb.

MESS PORK—Per bbl $28 50.

HOGGED CORN—The market is firm with sales reported at from 44@46c ₱ lb, as to quality.

CHEESE—The market is quiet, with fair stocks for the season. We quote Western Reserve at 17@17½c; Factory 15@16c; and New York Goshen at 19½@20c ₱ lb. Limberger 19½c, and Sweitzer 20½c ₱ lb.

DRIED FRUITS—The market is dull. The best articles in the market are dull at the following quotations: Dried apples at 8@9c; peaches 9@10c for quarters; 10½@11½c for halves, and 20c ₱ lb for pared. Blackberries 16c ₱ lb, and pitted cherries 20c ₱ lb.

CIDER—Dull and nominal in price, ranging from 6@8 ₱ bbl, as to quality and size of barrel.

EGGS—Dull and lower, with sales of warranted fresh at 25@24c ₱ dozen.

HAY—We quote timothy hay from country wagons $15@22 ₱ ton, as to quality. Baled timothy from store $18@22 ₱ ton.

HOGS—Sales at 2½@3c ₱ lb.

OATS STRAW—Sales from $10 to $14 ₱ ton.

DRESSED HOGS—In the Diamond market sales in a retail way at $10 2½@11 25 ₱ cwt, as to size, quality, etc., etc. In the market they will not command much over $10 25. If that.

LIME—We quote Cleveland white lime at $2 @2 25 ₱ bbl.

LARD OIL—We quote extra No 1 lard oil at $1 80@1 42½ and No 2 at 90c ₱ gallon.

ONIONS—Choice onions are scarce and firm at $2 75@3 ₱ bbl and barrels, and quoted at $2 50@2 75 ₱ barrel.

POTATOES—Market dull at 90@95c ₱ bushel from store.

POULTRY—Nice dressed chickens command 11 @12c ₱ lb; dressed turkeys 11@13c, and ducks 17 @18c ₱ lb. Live chickens, by the coop, 65c ₱ pair. Dressed geese 10c ₱ lb.

SEEDS—We quote choice clover seed at $8 00@8 25 in lots, and $9 00 in a retail way. Choice timothy seed sells at $4 75@5 00 ₱ bushel. Flax seed is nominally $2 10@2 15 ₱ bushel.

HOMINY—We quote the best kiln dried at $6 00 ₱ barrel, and market dull.

FLOUR—There is but a light local demand for supplying immediate wants, and the market is quiet with a good supply on hand. We quote good to choice red winter wheat flour at $5 50@6 00, and good to choice spring at $5 25@5 75 ₱ barrel. Common grades nominal in price, with little inquiry. Buckwheat flour is held at $3 00@3 25 per cwt. We quote prime kiln dried corn meal at $1 05@1 10 ₱ bushel. Rye flour $5 00 ₱ barrel.

GRAIN—Nothing doing in grain. Good to choice red winter wheat is quoted at $1 12@1 15 ₱ bush. From first hands car corn is dull at 70c@75c ₱ bushel, as to quality. Rye is dull and nominally 85@90c, as to quality. On the track or wharf oats are dull at 60@65c ₱ bush. We quote nominally new spring barley at $1 00@1 05, and fall at $1 10 ₱ bushel.

WHISKY—We quote high wines at $1 00; common rectified $1 00, and proof rectified $1 10 ₱ gallon.

Groceries.

Business continues dull, and we have little change to note since our last report. We cannot look for much improvement until after the first of next month, when the spring trade will open. Prices are unchanged, owing to the light demand. Coffee is very firm East and the gold price has advanced, although the decline in the premium on gold makes the currency price rate the same as last report. Prime and choice grades are very scarce and held at outside prices. Sugars are dull and seem to indicate lower prices. New Orleans molasses are higher, and as the cron (all in) is lighter than the estimated supply, the price has advanced in New Orleans, which makes them higher in this market. Other articles are unchanged, and we quote as follows for choice goods:

COFFEE—Government Java, in mats 25½c; Laguayra, 22c; Rio, fancy, 23½c; choice, 23½c; prime, 23c; fair, 21½c; good 20c.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common to finest, 90c@$1 75; Imperial and Gunpowder do, $1 10@1 80; Japan, 80c@$1 15; Oolong, 75c@$1 60 for good to choice.

SYRUPS—White drips 80c@90c; silver drips 75c; Sovering's, 75c; fair to good 50@60c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, choice, 85c; prime 75@80c; Porto Rico, 75c.

RAW SUGARS—New Orleans, good, 13c; prime, 12½c; choice 14c; Porto Rico, good, 12c; prime 13c; Demerara, 13½@14c.

REFINED SUGARS—Hards, 15¼c; A, 14½c; B, 14c; Ex C, 14c; C Yellow, 14c.

RICE—Carolina 8½c.

VINEGAR—We quote white wine vinegar, in original packages, 75c; German wine, 25c; cider Vinegar, 29@35c ₱ gallon.

FISH—No. 1 Mackerel, $29 50; No. 2 Mackerel, $18 50; No. 3 (large fat) Mackerel, $16 00; No. 3 large half bbls, $8 25; No. 3 medium $12 00. White fish $6 50; Lake Herring $4 50.

SPICES—Cloves 50c; Cloves 50c; Nutmegs, $1 50; Cassia, 75c; Ginger, 35c; Alspice, 35c.

SOAP AND CANDLES—The following are the late quotations: Proctor & Gamble's star candles, 24c for full weight; mould and dip candles ₱ lb 14c. Babbitt's soap, 12c; Dalley's, 11c; Excelsior, 8c; Woman's Friend, 9c; Magic Wax, 8c.

LYE—Pennsylvania Salt Co.'s Lye and Potash $8 25.

INDIGO—Madras 90c@$1 50; Manilla 90c@$1 45.

TAR, ETC.—Pitch $3 00; Rosin $3 25@3 50; Tar—North Carolina $3 75@5, small and large barrels.

BROOMS—$4 00@5 75 ₱ dozen.

PITTSBURGH OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 17, 1870. }

BUSINESS.—The market yesterday was very dull with scarcely sufficient business to establish prices. We have seldom noticed less disposition to operate in either crude or refined The operations are so fluctuating.

CRUDE.—Spot or February, 12¾@13c, the former bid, the latter wanted. Buyers' option sold at 13@13½c; all year 13@13½c; sellers option fill July 12½c. The only sale reported was 1,000 bbls, sellers option fill July 12½c.

REFINED.—Market very dull; buyers seemed disposed to operate very sparingly. The only sale reported was 1,500 bbls for this month's delivery at 28c. Quotations were as follows: March 28c, bid and asked; March to August 28½c bid; March to August 29c; March to September 29½@29¾c bid, asked; April to September 30@30¾c; April to December, sellers, option, 33½c.

DISPATCHES.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

NEW YORK, February 15.—Closing on 15th: Petroleum—crude in bulk quiet with a small inquiry from refiners at 16c. Crude in shipping order is selling slowly; 600 bbls brought 21c. Refined in moderate demand for shipment. The light amount of freight room offering restricts business. The speculative movement is unimportant; prices nominal the same as 15½@15¾c for standard white. Sales 4,000 bbls at 30½c for February; 30¾c for March; 31c for April; 31½c for May; 31¾c for June; 32c for July; 32½c for August; 33c for September; 33½c for October; 34c for November; 34½c for December; 35c for January; 35½c for February, 1871. Crude certificates sold at 13½c for February; 13¾c for March; 14c for April; 14¼c for May; 14½c for June; 14¾c for July; 15c for August; 15¼c for September; 15½c for October; 15¾c for November; 16c for December; 16¼c for January, 1871; 16½c for February. Spirits turpentine dull at 43½c. Rosins dull at $2 50@2 55 for strained. Freights to Liverpool dull at 9d for crude and 12½d for refined.

BOSTON, February 15.—Petroleum quiet and unchanged; crude 15½@16c; refined 30c; dull and flat.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph.]

PARKER'S LANDING, February 16, 2:30 P. M.—Offering from 14 to 64 60; holders asking 64 70@64 75; nothing doing.

NEW YORK, February 16, 11:15 A. M.—Market very quiet; prices nominal. Crude 16c; refined 30c@30½c.

PHILADELPHIA, February 16, 11:30 A. M.—Market quietly nothing doing; more inquiry for lines, but at lower prices. February 29½c; March 29½c; April and September the bid and 30½c asked; March, April and September 30½c bid; crude 15½@16c.

CITY, February 16, 12:45 P. M.—Market quiet and dull at $1 60@1 62½, on lower creek; $1 55@1 60 at Oil City.

LOUISVILLE, February 16, 1:00 P. M.—Market weaker with a general disposition to sell, but no transactions to get at; prices nominally at $1 56@1 58.

TITUSVILLE, Pa., February 16, 12:00 M.—Market very weak; no offers over $4 30.

Oil Receipts per River and Rail.

Eagle Well	100	Jas. Wilkins
Fisher Bros	400	Jas. Wilkins
Bensman Oil Works	240	Peerless Oil Works
Total		

Oil Shipped East by A. V. R. R.

Lockhart, Frew & Co, 324 bbls refined to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Brasn & Wagner, 398 bbls ref to Waring, K & Co, Philadelphia.

J A McKee, 259 bbls refined to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Standard Oil Works, 68 bbls ref to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Total Shipments Refined..... 1,190 bbls

Oil Shipped East by Western P. R. R.

Kirkpatrick & Lea, 276 bbls refined to W P Logan & Bro, Philadelphia.

Morrison, Hopkins & Co, 276 bbls refined to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.

Total Shipments Refined..... 325 bbls

First February Run of Coal.

The Monongahela is again in fine coalboating order, as we have before remarked. The coalboat men have had a busy time, in order to get the boats and tows ready for another run. A small portion of the fleet have departed for the lower markets. The balance will get off to-day and to-morrow. The fleet that will get out on this water consists of thirty-one towboats, two hundred and eighty-three boats and barges of various descriptions and sizes, and one steamboat hull and one flat of coke. The amount in bushels aggregates 3,622,000 bushels; to this will be added all the boats in port that can be got ready. Quite a number of the tows were already hitched up for an early start this day.

CINCINNATI.

Towboats.	Boats.	Barges.	F. boats.	Bush.
Coal Valley	9	--	--	99,000
Coal City	14	--	--	154,000
W. F. Wilson	8	--	--	88,000
Whale	10	--	--	110,000
Leopard	9	1	--	99,000
Collier	7	1	--	75,000
Leader	7	--	--	82,000
Peerless	12	--	--	144,000
Lion	9	--	--	99,000
Total	85	2	--	882,000

LOUISVILLE.

Towboats	boats.	barges.	F. B.	bush-
Fred Wilson No. 2	5	4	2	170,000
Heindeer	--	9	--	100,000
Coal Hill	--	10	--	145,000
Lioness No. 2	--	16	--	150,000
Tennessee	2	4	--	100,000
Tom Rees No. 2	--	12	--	152,000
Swan No. 2	1	4	1 C. I. N.	118,000
Eagle	1	8	--	100,000
Keystone	--	3	--	70,000
Little Allison	--	7	--	80,000
Panther	5	5	8 small b.	150,000
Hercules No. 2	3	14	--	230,000
Sam Roberts	11	--	--	100,000
Willis	5	--	--	110,000
O. H. Ormsby	2	3	--	85,000
Tigress No. 3	6	6	--	120,000
Ohio Belle	--	7	--	115,000
Tiger	--	7	--	82,000
Clipper	--	7	--	70,000
	30	122	7	2,100,000

NEW ORLEANS.

Towboats.	Boats.	Barges.	F. Boats.	Bush.
Ben Evans	--	2	--	200,000
Grand Lake No. 2	7	--	1	150,000
Mary Ann	4	5	2	160,000
Total	20	7	5	520,000

RECAPITULATION.

Towboats.	Boats.	Barges.	F. Boats.	Bush.
To Cincinnati	9	--	87	882,000
To Louisville	30	--	196	2,110,000
To New Orleans	3	--	30	520,000
Total	31	--	253	3,521,000

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

CHICAGO, February 16, 1870.

EASTERN EXCHANGE—Par.

FLOUR—Quiet and prices without material change; $3 80@4 15 for spring extras.

WHEAT—Market dull, heavy and lower; transactions were at 97c for No 1 and 81@83c for No 2, closing at 81@83½c sales for future delivery were almost exclusively in option, seller March, at 82@83c. In the afternoon the market was quiet at 81½@81¾c cash and seller February; 82c bid seller March; 82½c asked.

CORN—Very dull for old, and no demand except to fill shorts; sales at 69@69½c for No 2, closing at the outside; new and no grade without material change; very little doing in option only; seller month and 70@70¼c seller March for No 2, in the afternoon the market was dull at 69@69½c.

OATS—Quiet; transactions principally options; sales of No 2 in store at 39@39½c, and for future delivery 38½@38¾c seller month; 39½c buyer do; 38½@38¾c seller March; 39@39¼c buyer do; 39½c buyer April; 39¾ @39¾c seller do.

RYE—Inactive and neglected at 62c for No 2.

BARLEY—Active and firmer at 74c for No 2.

HIGHWINES—Quiet at 90c buyer wood bound.

PROVISIONS—More active and firmer. Mess pork in good demand and sparingly offered; closing at $15 30 cash, and $16 37½ seller March; prime mess $12 50@12 75; prime $11 50@11 75. Lard in good demand and held at 9½@9¾c; good to choice brought 7 97½c, with a few at 10c for No 1 and 9½c for No 2.

Hogs fell yesterday and continues very dull at 5½@ 6¼c; only 1 car of live sold to-day at 5½c; 1,000 dressed are quoted at 6½@6¾c; western dressed are quoted at 6¼@6½c; 24 cars live came in to-day. Weaker and warm.

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, February 16.—Tobacco strong and unchanged. Cotton unchanged at 24½c. Flour dull and easy. Fine steady, firm and unchanged; $4 25@4 50 for superfine; $4 65@5 00 for extra; $5 00@5 50 for XX; $6 00@7 50 for XXX fancy. Wheat dropping, closing lower; No 2 spring and No 1 do closing dull and nominally unchanged. Wheat—prime No 2 spring $1 16; No 2 held at $1 14@1 15. Corn dull and lower; held at 78c. Oats dull and nominally unchanged. Rye—market nominal. Provisions quiet; last week; refined held at 26c for prime light straw to white and nominally; 27c named sale for retail trade at 28@29c; crude dull at $5 75@6 00.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, February 16.—Dry goods market fairly active. Heavy and medium grades of cottons are in good demand; market very strong and prices firm. Harrisburg 4-4 sheetings sold at 13½c. In print the market is regular with a fair demand.

Memphis Market.

MEMPHIS, February 16.—Cotton dull and irregular at 23½@23¾c; receipts 1,193 bales; exports 1,851 bales. Flour unchanged. Corn 90@92c. Oats 66@70c. Hay $25. Bran $23. Lard 16@17c. Pork $25@26. Bacon—nothing doing, bulk shoulders 11c; sides 13½c.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, February 16.—Flour dull. Wheat unchanged; No 1 white Michigan $1 19; amber Michigan $1 04; No 1 red $1 13. Corn is lower; No 2 old 86c; no grade offered. Oats unchanged and dull; No 1 48c; No 2 do. Clover seed $5 15.

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, February 16.—Flour steady. Wheat in light demand and unchanged. Rye, corn and oats unchanged. Provisions—small business. Meats unchanged. Lard 13½@13c. Whisky firm and unchanged.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, February 16.—Flour firm and active, previous quotations. Wheat steady at $1 25@1 26. Corn firm, white 86@90c; yellow 90c. Oats steady and unchanged. Provisions unchanged. Whisky firm and 8 active at 90c@$1.

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, February 16.—Flour steady and prices unchanged. Wheat lower at 87@c for No 1 and 82@c for No 2. Corn and barley nominally unchanged. Dressed hogs firm at $10 25@10 50.

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LARD OIL

AND

PURE FAMILY LARD,

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Office, 17 Pike's Building.

Packing House, corner Bank and Biddle streets. Factory, 168 and 170 Findlay street.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 119¾@119¾.

NEW YORK, February 16—P. M.

STOCK MOVEMENTS.

Pacific Mail is peculiar among one of the prominent features of Wall street to-day, and dealings in stock were unusually heavy at a farther advance. It is rumored among the brokers that Commodore has made a large amount of stock, and that shortly application will be made to the legislature for permission to reduce the capital stock one-half, or from $20,000,000 to $10,000,000, and that the stock which the friends of the Company have bought, in connection with the amendment now held in the Treasury, will be sufficient to reduce the capital to $10,000,000. The recent rise of Illinois Central in London to 114 and active speculative movement in Erie, is attributed to the fact that the American director, long known in Wall street has established his headquarters in London. The sudden rise and activity in Erie this afternoon, also caused much comment, and was attributed to the coming arrival of an English barrister to begin litigation against the present management. The price touched 26¾, from which there was, however, a reaction.

MONEY.

There was rather more demand for money, but it was not active, 7 per cent. Little or nothing was done as low as 6 per cent. Prime acceptances pass at 6, and prime business notes at 7@8.

GOVERNMENTS

A trifle lower, under a foolish rumor that the Secretary of the Treasury had decided to prevent $10,000,000 currency for the payment of pensions next month, and therefore would suspend the payment of bonds. The whole annual payment for pensions is only about $30,000,000, and payments are made about one month in a year. The market closed steady. Coupons 5s, 113½@118, do 6s 1881, 117½@117¾; do '62, 114¾@115; do '64, 114¼@114½; do new 113¾@113¾; do '65, 113½@113¾; do '65 new 112¾@113; do '67 113½@113¾; do '68 113½@113¾.

STATE SECURITIES

Tennessee bonds lower; closed at 74½. State securities firm. Missouris 94¾; old Tennessees 54; new 49; old Virginias 62¾; new 66; old North Carolinas 46¾; new 26¾; South Carolinas 66¾.

STOCKS.

Strong and generally higher. Erie being a great feature. Vanderbilt shares are again being lifted by the clique. Pacific Mail 62@62¼; Western Union Tel 34¾; Paul, Rock Island, Northwestern and Chicago and Alton also advanced. Quicksilver was dull and closed not satisfied at the close, but the market ended firm. The combination for a rise in Erie is coming out. Express stocks dull.

CLOSING PRICES.

Canton 58; Cumberland 35¾; Western Union Telegraph 34¾; Quicksilver 14; Mariposa 10½; preferred 22; Pacific Mail 62; Adams Express 62; Wells, Fargo & Co 25¾; United States 56¾; Pacific Mail 43¾; New York Central 127¾; Erie 26¾; preferred 42; Harlem 127¾; do preferred 126; Hudson Scrip 96¾; Reading 98; Michigan Central 89; Lake Shore 90; Illinois Central 142½; Pittsburgh 102¾; Northwestern 74¼; preferred 91¾; Rock Island 125¾; St. Paul 67¾; preferred 91¾; Wabash 47½; do preferred 70; Fort Wayne 91¾; Terre Haute 32; do preferred 70; Chicago and Alton 130½; do preferred 116; Ohio and Mississippi 30¾; New Jersey Central 106; Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central 29¾; Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati 94¾; Hannibal and Quincy 116; St. Joseph 102¾; Dubuque 109¾.

MINING SHARES

Boston prices—Calumet 71; Copper Falls 8; Franklin 7; Rivers 85; Quincy 78.

Exports for the week, except specie, $2,247,559.

Sub-Treasury balances—gold $26,819,486; currency, $7,106,956; general balance, $884,000.

A report comes from Washington that the Secretary of the Treasury will, through a certain banking house of this city, $1,000,000 gold, the reason a signed for the reported sale being that the parties who required more currency. This motive seems inconsistent with the fact that the treasury currency balance is now $13,000,000. It also appears that the Assistant Treasurers having advised the Secretary of the Treasury that there is no authority for the practice hitherto in force of receiving deposits of bullion at Sub-Treasury against advances, the secretary on Saturday last directed the Assistant Treasurer to notify depositors to withdraw deposits of bullion on Monday. The total bullion at present deposited here is about $5,000,000. As the firm mentioned as having sold gold for the Treasury is a depositor of bullion, and has been notified to withdraw its deposits, it is generally supposed that the Treasury for a return trip to New Orleans on Wednesday.

The tow boat Wild Cat passed Louisville on Monday en route for this city with a tow of empty barges.

In the water in the Monongahela keeps up until the last of the week, the coal shipments will exceed five millions of bushels.

THE MONONGAHELA SLACKWATER.—The packet for Brownsville leaves every day at 4 P. M. wharf-boat, foot of Grant street, daily at 8 A. M. and 5 P. M.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The splendid packet St. Charles, Capt. C. A. Bravo, takes her departure this day positively for Cincinnati and all way points, at 4 P. M. Passengers, bear this in mind.

HO! FOR THE SUNNY SOUTH!—The splendid packet Lexington, Captain Jas. Atkinson, is announced for Cairo, Memphis and New Orleans. This boat is noted for fine speed, superior accommodations and careful and gentlemanly officers. What Captain Robinson don't know about navigation is not worth knowing. The first clerk is our old friend Henderson, who will be found in the office. Any business entrusted to the agents will be well attended to.

The splendid side wheel steamer St. Charles, Captain C. A. Bravo, will leave on Thursday instead of Friday, for Wheeling, Marietta, Parkersburg, Ironton, Portsmouth and Cincinnati. The St. Charles is noted for great speed, superior accommodations, and kind and accommodating officers. The clerks are Messrs. Reppert, Bravo and Wiley, a pretty strong team. The Captain has an eye to the main chance in Pittsburgh and Cincinnati trade. Captain Bravo having spent both time and money in re-arranging the packet trade, we want this boat to have a huge trip on Thursday.

IMPORTS BY RIVER.

Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne & Chicago R. R. —P. R. R. Lessee.

J S Liggett & Co, 1 pkg drugs; J Sylvester, 1 car oats; C P Markee, 17 bdls p stock; J H Parker, 50 cases lard; Wm Metz, 1 pkg; Dilworth, Bissell & Co, 1 pkg; Wm Vangorder & S, 4 bbls onions; Kramer & B, 1 bbl hardware; Bingham & Co, 1 pkg; Wm Phillips, 1 pkg; Rogers, Brugman & Co, 25 sks rye; M McWhinny & Co, 1 pkg; Jos Woodwell, 1 pkg; J Mc Bonner, 1 pkg; 4 do hoops, 3 do s trees, 30 do. fellocs; S D Strassburg, 11 bbls flasks; G. E Fetterman & Co, 1 pkg; T Hopple, 1 car fullber; E Hazelton, 100 bbls flour; M Hoffstot & Bro, 1 pkg; Bonner & Hoey, 1 pkg; 2 bdls iron; D Gregg & co 4 pkgs mdse; W Frank & Son, 1 pkg; Jas Dilworth, 1 pkg; Jas Scott, NO 3 do; Mc Mc & co, 2 bbls sugar; G H Anderson, 1 bbl tassel; Woodwell & A, 1 pkg; Jas Dilworth, 15 bbls whiskey, 2 reels yarn, 1 do tow; R L Fahnestock & co, 30 bbls lard; H Bergin, 1 pkg cabinet ware; P M Lockman, 2 bdls coke forks; Fahnestock & B 4 do do; N J Braden, 2 bbls whisky; Jas Dilworth, 15 bbls flour.

Allegheny Station.

Wm McKee & co, 1 car wheat; J R Holmes, 1 do do; Jacob Rhodes via Lacrar, 1 car do; Jas Dilworth, 1 car do; T Owens & co, 1 bbl eggs; J S Arthur, 3 cook stoves; W H Bell, 1 do do; Jas Dilworth, 1 car castings; R Knox & Son, 100 bbls flour; R T Kennedy & Bro, 2 cars hay.

Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad.

C B Leech, 12 bbls plaster; Smith & P, 4 c tires; Sexton & co, 32 bxs 8 wax; Dilworth, Bissell & Co, 1 pkg; J R Lyon & co, 100 bbls lime; Carter, McG & co, 3 pkgs mdse; Watson & Co, 1 pkg; Jas Dilworth, 1 car pr, 27 bbls apples; Graham & M, 443 sks oats, 26 do rye; Brugman & O B, 10 pkgs mdse; 2 kegs nails; 1 do spikes; 6 do nut bolts; Kel & B, 25 sks corn; Haworth & Co, 1 bbl butter; Jas Dilworth, 1 car flour, 15 bbls do; large. 12 rolls leather; Reinhart & S, 4 bbls onions; Fleming, A & co, 1 bx tin; Wood & E, 1 car buggies.

Allegheny Station.

G Stewart, 10 bbls flour; R T Kennedy & Bro, 1 car corn; Jas Dilworth, 1 do do; Hugh Cunningham, 1 car 60 do rye; M Steel & son, 75 bbls flour; Strolt & E, 1 car hay; Jas Dilworth, 1 do do; Jas Dilworth, 1 car, 9 bbls s pelts; J Kuhen, 1 lots ware; D Davis, 1 do do; Hugh Hilty, 1 car 200 bbls flour.

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis R. R.

Hastings & D, 3 cars staves; Meanor & H, 1 bbl leather; Jas Dilworth, 1 car flour; Wm Bingham, 1 do do; Wagner, 1 bbl castings; Dilworth, H & co, 21 boxes and 6 do do; Wood & E, 1 car buggies; Wm Bingham & Co, 1 do do; Jno A Beaghan, 3 hrs hams, 1 do bacon; Jas Dilworth, 1 car flour; Graham & M, 1 bbl and 1 bx samples, 2 bxs tobacco; A Schaub, 2 bbls do; M Hoffstot & Bro, 1 pkg mdse; Dilworth, H & co, 2 bags hops; J Wainright, 91 do do; R Cursty, 17 bags rags; Jas Dilworth, 1 car flour; Wm Bingham, 1 do do; 2 bales tobacco; P Pollock, 1 pkg tobacco; P Bagley, 12 bags castings; J Linney, 1 do do; Jas Dilworth, 1 car flour; 3 bdls s pelts; J Kuhen, 1 lots ware; D Davis, 1 do do; Hugh Hilty, 1 car 200 bbls flour.

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The Daily Commercial.

CITY MATTERS.

List of Unmailable Letters.

The following is a list of letters held at the Pittsburgh Postoffice for want of pre-payment of postage, and on account of misdirection. The writers can get them by applying at the Postoffice:

Booth, Miss Maggie, Rochester, Pa. 3
Coale, Charles, New Brighton, Pa. 3
Cree, Thomas, Lewisburg, Pa. 3
Doleuty, Thomas, Iron Mountain, Mo. (2) 3
Gregory, G. B., New Cumberland, Ga. 3
McKown, James, Philadelphia, Pa. 3
Namars, Mathew M., Sharpsburg, Pa. 3
Patton, Wm. H. E., Addison, Pa. 3
Pelt, Miss Maggie, Elma, Pa. 3
Shanley, W. F., New Cumberland, Ga. 3
Tuttle and Dickman, New York 3
Williams, Mrs. Prudence, Franklin, Pa. 3
Woollie, Miss Mariah, Falston, Pa. 3

ON DUTY.—Officer John Moore is stationed, during the day, in the watch house office.

MAYOR BRUSH disposed of sixteen common cases yesterday morning.

THE CENTRAL BOARD.—The Central Board of Education will hold a meeting this afternoon.

IF YOU want a magnificent Piano, at half its value, call at once at No 7 Smithfield street, between Fourth and Fifth avenue.

MONONGAHELA BRIDGE.—Would it be exacting too much to ask the Directors of the Monongahela Suspension Bridge Company to instruct the toll keepers to pass reporters.

HEARING ON TUESDAY.—James Johnson, whose arrest in Montana was noticed yesterday, will have a hearing before Mayor Brush on Tuesday next.

THE ALLEGHENY ARSENAL.—The number of men employed at the Allegheny Arsenal at present, exclusive of the soldiers quartered there, is only eighteen.

MARKET HOUSE.—The citizens of the Seventeenth ward are to hold a meeting to take action in regard to the proposed market house on Penn street.

GUNS ARRIVED.—The guns for Company "B," Duquesne Grays, Captain S. L. Fullwood, arrived from Harrisburg last night and were placed in the Armory on Fourth avenue.

WASHINGTON INFANTRY.—The members of the Washington Infantry hold a meeting at Spiane's Hall this evening to elect commissioned officers for the company.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.—A call has been issued for a public meeting to be held at Lafayette Hall to-morrow (Friday) evening, for the purpose of making arrangements for the proper celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

ACCIDENT.—A man named Hamer fell down on Penn street, near Forty-first, yesterday and cut his head, being injured so severely that he was insensible for some time. He is in a fair way to recover.

TEMPERANCE BALL.—Fidelity Chapter of Temperance and Wisdom are doing their best to make the ball on the 22d inst. a pleasant and agreeable one. The temperance people so seldom have a "spree" that this is likely to prove a success.

REDUCTION IN PRICES.—In accordance with the decline in prices of groceries and provisions, I have determined to do the same by my prices, and have therefore made a very liberal reduction in prices. Wm. Warden, National House, Marietta, Ohio. TFtus

BURGLARY ON TENTH STREET.—The wholesale grocery store of Harris & Ewing, corner of Tenth and Liberty streets, was entered by burglars at an early hour on Wednesday evening. Their operations were checked by the return of the night watchman, who had been temporarily absent, and the thieves retreated, taking with them a few stamps, a broken bank bill, a navy revolver and a coat. An entrance was effected through the coal cellar.

MORE CONCERNING UNEXPENDED BALANCES.—A lively time will be had at the next meeting of the Firemen's Association, when a motion now almost dormet, in reference to the disposition of the "unexpended balance" in the hands of the Treasurer, will be put in motion, will submit a report at the next meeting. The amount of the unexpended balance is variously estimated at from twelve to five thousand dollars, though a gentleman well informed says it is nearer three or five hundred cents. We hear it stated that the sum is to be divided among the members, and there will be no doubt be a full attendance.

Arrested on a Dispatch from Uniontown.

Yesterday afternoon Chief of Police Hague received a dispatch from Justice Lewis, of Uniontown, requesting him to arrest Stephen Diggins and Jesse Harris, both colored, who would arrive on the train due in the city at six o'clock, P. M. The telegram charged them with larceny. Officer Long was at the Connellsville Depot when the train arrived, and captured the two persons mentioned in the dispatch and placed them in the lock-up. It seems, from the statement of the defendants that a woman named Harriet Armstead, residing at Uniontown, was robbed on $25 on Sunday last, and suspecting these parties of the crime, sent information before Justice Lewis, charging them with larceny. When the warrant was issued it was ascertained that they started for Pittsburgh, and their arrest effected in the manner stated.

List of United States Patents.

Issued to citizens of Western Pennsylvania for the week ending February 8, 1870, and each bearing that date. Reported weekly for the PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL from the office of David A. Burr, Solicitor of Patents and Attorney in Patent cases, Washington City, D. C:

No. 99,952—Boiler for cooking stoves; Frank S. Bissell, Pittsburgh.
No. 99,776—Folding bedstead; W. H. Buell, Laughlintown.
No. 99,779—Shovel blank; George W. Jope, Pittsburgh; assignor to himself and William Buntan.
No. 99,780—Match machine; L. T. Luther, Oak Grove.
No. 99,850—Harvester; Grant T. Coolman, Charles M. Young, Corry.
No. 99,961—Calipers; Wm. Star, Franklin.
No. 99,975—Manufacture of paraffine and parabine oil; Herbert W. Oswalde, Pittsburgh.
No. 99,997—Sucker-rod coupling, for oil wells; Adam Good, Jr., Titusville.

Real Estate Sales.

The following deeds were filed of record before Recorder Thomas H. Hunter, February 16, 1870:

Wm. Abey to Sophia Groves; August 12, 1869; 2 acres and 93 perches in Union township. $5,000
S. H. Hartman to David Gone; July 2, 1869; 19 by 108 feet on Rebecca street, Allegheny $1,000
Nathan Stoop to Wm. Flusch; November 27, 1869; 2 acres in East Deer township $5,000
Michael Faorell to Caroline Strain; February 12, 1870; 31 by 129 feet on Webster avenue, Eleventh ward $2,250
Philip F. Moss to Ernest Schneider; February 14, 1870; 15 by 46 feet on Walnut alley, Birmingham $2,000
School Directors of Scott township to Daniel Neeld; August 12, 1867; 50 by 140 feet in Mansfield $1
L. R. McAboy to Jacob Wills; December 30, 1869; 133 acres and 21 perches in McCandless township $5,000
John R. Bingler to Sarah Bahn; September 23, 1869; 20 by 110 feet in Twenty-third ward $1,000
John B. Bosch to Thomas O. Connell; August 20, 1869; 20 by 110 feet in Mt. Washington $375
John B. Bosch to Dennis Maloney; August 31, 1869; 20 by 110 feet in Mt. Washington $375
Mary Stevens to trustees of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, Kilbuck township, 2 acres in Ohio township $250
John M. Little to Thomas Gunner; September 11, 1867; 50 by 205 feet on East Liberty and Pine Creek road, Collins township $200
Wm. R. Shields to James Williams; April 11, 1867; 145 perches in village of Fayetteville $412

Death of a Worthy Citizen.

Mr. Thomas Dickson, one of the oldest residents of the county, died yesterday at the house of his friend, Mr. Thomas Mitchell, (of the firm of Mitchell, Stevenson & Co.,) Penn street. Mr. Dickson came to this country from the North of Ireland, and settled in Pittsburgh in 1811, being then anout twenty-one years of age. He has resided in the vicinity ever since, and has seen Pittsburgh grow from the few tenantless houses which constituted the "borough" at the time of his arrival to the flourishing city which it now is. Some twenty-five years ago he was severely afflicted with strangulated hernia, and came well nigh losing his life, but by a skilful surgical operation he was restored to comparative good health. On last Sabbath week he came to the city, for the purpose of attending the communion services at his church, (Rev. W. J. Reed's,) and during the day he was taken ill and was removed to the residence of his friend, Mr. Mitchell, where he died of inflammation of the bowels. He was widely known in the community, and was universally esteemed for his integrity of character and upright Christian deportment. He had attained the ripe age of four score years, and having filled the measure of his usefulness, was prepared to enter upon the better life. He leaves an estimable wife, and several adult children, to mourn his decease. The funeral will take place from the residence of Mr. Stevenson, on Friday forenoon.

DIXMONT HOSPITAL.

The Rules of Admission of Private Patients and the Mode of Payment Similar to the State Hospital at Harrisburg—The Rate of Boarding Less.

It is due to the Hospital of the Insane at Dixmont, that the public should not be misled by our article of Saturday, when facts have come into our possession relating to the institution from censure, and showing that its acts have been in conformity with law and the rules which govern similar hospitals elsewhere, especially in this Commonwealth.

The rule in the Dixmont Hospital, preparatory to the admission of private patients is, that "such shall make a payment of thirteen weeks' board in advance when brought to the Hospital; and if taken away within that time against the advice and consent of the Superintendent, within that period, *no part of said payment shall be refunded.*

"Rule 3—Those who may bring a patient with any such order or warrant, will be required to pay at the time of the admission or "the *patient's seventy-eight dollars.*"

AQUATICS.

THE SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

Brown Accepts Coulter's Terms, and Fixes the Race for June 29th at Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

The following card, addressed to the editor of the New York *Clipper* for this week, appears under date of February 14th:

"DEAR SIR: In looking over your issue of February 12th, I see that Mr. Coulter has answered my card, but objects to the proposal I made in regard to the course for the race—A proposal which I considered perfectly fair. I wish to say now, however, that I am determined not to row at Pittsburgh again, as I do not wish to take my friends so far away from home a third time, and Mr. Coulter ought to know that it is not customary for a person holding the championship to go away from home and then pay his challenger's expenses for going but a trifling distance farther. Still, in order to prevent the affair falling through, I will give way and accommodate him on the terms he offers. I will row Mr. Coulter a five mile race—two and one-half miles to a stake-boat and return—for the sum of $1,000 a side; the race to take place on the Hudson river, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., on the 29th day of June next; the race to be made play or pay, or a stipulation to be inserted in the articles for smooth water—whatever suits Coulter will not be objectionable to me. He can have either one or two stake-boats, whichever he chooses, if only then we toss for choice of position half an hour before starting in the race; if two, I am to have the choice. I would be gratified if Mr. Coulter will, on receipt of this, forward by him draw up articles and forward them to me for signature, in care of your office, at the same time sending to you $250 as a deposit, which I will immediately cover. As I am the challenged party, it is not unusual, as you are aware, to put up a deposit first. Awaiting anxiously an early reply and articles, I am, yours truly,

WALTER BROWN,
Champion of America.

Concerning the challenge, the *Clipper* says: "As our readers will remember, Brown, before for the championship, Brown then winning the title, and a second contest between them would be productive of much excitement and have great effect in advancing boating interests. Therefore we trust that no impediment may be allowed to stand in the way of the parties, but rather send on a deposit and articles without delay."

We have no doubt that Mr. Coulter will promptly respond. His friends will await his reply with much interest.

OUR CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Criticism of Mr. Anderson's Letter and the Common School System.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Mr. Anderson's letter in Saturday's COMMERCIAL reads well, but would give so far greater satisfaction if a little more definite. Is Mr. Anderson for Mr. Howard's bill or against it? For if, his insinuations against Mr. Howard and the friends of the bill are out of place; if against it, then it is well for us that he is not in Mr. Howard's place. The fling at recent efforts for city improvement in connection with this bill sets out, is also out of place. Every good citizen, and I do not wish to insinuate that Mr. Anderson is not of this class, must admit that retrenchment and reform are greatly needed. Mr. Howard, and every one else who aids in this good work, deserves the cordial thanks and support of the people. I have determined to withhold my acknowledgment, even from his former opponents, that his course so far has been upright, independent, and honestly on the side of the people, against corrupt rings and combinations. Next to this journal and a few leading spirits in the Councils, he has had the opportunity he has had, has done more to stem the tide of corruption and extravagance in the management of public affairs.

Then one would think Mr. Anderson's laudation of the school system has very little to do with the question of keeping the school funds, and his reminder that he is the people's choice for a member of the Board, is also irrelevant, as well as the commendation of Mr. McCune as a liberal Treasurer.

"Am I not the people's representative," is the official's standing retort whenever his conduct is questioned, just as "am I not the Lord's anointed" is the answer of the unworthy priest. And what has liberality to do with the qualifications of a Treasurer? There are so many liberal people, in which liberality is no disqualification that Mr. Anderson had better withhold that compliment and let it be left to his official conduct with the Board.

In short, Mr. Anderson deals too much in generalities. It would interest the public far more to have it explained to them now it is that the committee, consisting of office committee rooms, which suffice for other departments, should be drawn large from the school committee for the figures for the rents and janitor and expenses of the hall. The people think the board entirely too lavish in these and other items for its own ease and luxury, and must turn and pay taxes by hard work, like to know the way it is expended.

Then again there is a growing opinion abroad, and not without good reason, that education is becoming less and less *thorough* and *efficient* in our public schools, and too much time and attention is given to *forms, superficialities, showy authorities* and officer parade accomplishments; that theorizing and experimenting is too much the order of the day, and school performances can be had from the least competent teachers, material labor in one order of the day.

That the book changing nuisance is regarded as a serious evil. Many parents assert that they now pay for books and other contingencies in the public schools in so-called free, more in the course of the year than the entire expense of the pay school amounted to in their own school days. The writer has in mind an instance within his own knowledge where an entire series of readers were recently ordered, again discarded and another ordered in its stead in a single year, of our new wards within a period of five years. Indeed, without intending to cast any reflection whatever on Mr. Anderson, his letter is not calculated to enlighten the public much on what is regarded as objectionable in the present management of our public schools.

CRITIC.

VEHICLE LICENSES.

The Advantages of Broad Tires.

The ordinance offered in the Common Council, at its meeting on Tuesday afternoon, providing for a change in the method of fixing the licenses on vehicles, is worthy of the careful consideration of the body. The object of the ordinance, as we understand it, is to induce vehicle owners to substitute broad tires for the narrow ones now in general use, and to discriminate in favor of light vehicles, as against heavy ones. The ultimate purpose is to prevent the wear upon our streets and roads, and compel the owners of heavy vehicles to pay in proportion to the damage they do. Under the present law, a light buggy is subject to the same license as a dray or cart, while every one knows that there is a wide difference between the two, in the amount of wear upon the streets. The new bill aims to have the licenses assessed according to the weight of the vehicle, and the width of the tires. For instance, on all light vehicles, whose weight shall not exceed four hundred pounds, and draw not a heavier, six dollars per annum, with one dollar and fifty cents for each additional horse. For vehicles of greater than four hundred pounds, with springs, at the rate of one dollar per hundred pounds additional. For all heavy vehicles with tires less than three inches in width, for one horse; ten dollars per annum; tires three, and less than four inches, eight dollars; tires four, and less than five inches, six dollars; tires five, and less than six inches, five dollars; over six inches, four dollars. Each additional horse, one dollar and fifty cents. The purpose of a license law is to raise revenue to keep the streets in repair, and it is not unjust that those who cause the greatest amount of damage (or wear) should pay the highest tax. Reasonable as this proposition is, there are those who contend that a dray should pay no more than a buggy, if as much, on the principle that "luxuries" should be taxed as roundly as possible, while necessities should be lightly taxed. But, without stopping to discuss this point, it certainly desirable that the wide tires should be introduced, whereby the wear and tear upon our roads will be lessened, and the necessity for a tax proportionately diminished. Every dollar of tax that can be saved in this way will be so much added to the dividend of our city, to say nothing of the saving in horse flesh, repairs of vehicles, &c. The ordinance, we hope, will be passed at the next meeting of Councils, and put into operation without delay.

THE SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Sabbath School Teachers' Institute—Third Day's Proceedings—Interesting Discussions in Regard to Sabbath School Work.

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The opening prayer was made by Rev. W. J. Reed.

Twenty minutes were spent in devotional exercises. Question drawer was opened, "At what age should children, who have been brought up in the Sabbath School, be received into the Church?" Answered by Rev. J. B. Clark, D. D., "Just whenever the child gives evidence that it is converted to God and understands the obligations resting upon the Christian. Cannot determine upon any particular age. It may be ten or twenty years of age."

An infant class was then taught by Mr. J. A. Carlisle, subject, "Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world." Mr. Carlisle taught simply, clearly, eloquently, and secured the interest and attention of the children throughout the whole exercises.

General discussion on Infant Class Teaching then followed and was participated in by Rev. S. R. Reed, T. J. Gillespie and Rev. R. H. Pollock.

The question drawer was again opened.

1. Is it right for Sabbath School scholars to come to school on Sabbath in the street cars or railway trains? Answer by Mr. Howard. It depends entirely on circumstances.

2. Is the Sabbath School a proper place to teach Sacred Geography? A.—By Rev. W. H. Andrews, "I believe it is."

3. How can Sabbath Schools be best maintained in country congregations during the winter months? A—By Rev. Keiso, that he did not believe it possible. Rev. S. R. Reed said he had just come from a congregation where they hold Sabbath School in winter, and advised the worker in the country to get up early and go to work, and they can do it as well as we can in the city.

4. How can we raise money to carry on our Sabbath Schools efficiently? A—By Rev. G. K. Ormond—Put our hands into our own pockets, is the quickest.

The topic, "Art of securing attention, was then opened by Mr. Cyrus Hatch, in an earnest model speech.

1st. Let them *know*, study schools dispositions visit their houses, know their surroundings, remember they are precious in sight of God. 2d. Impress on their minds that you love them, and gain their affections and you will gain their attention. 3d. We must prepare the lesson thoroughly. It is not necessary to have a great store of knowledge, but think they must have a whole head full of communications. This is not the case. Find out what you do know. Don't get into what Dr. Hall calls "barrel organ" style. Simplify what you teach. We are too apt to feed the children on strong meat or abstract truth. We should illustrate what we teach.

The next subject, Art of Questioning, was opened by Prof. J. R. Newell, who dissented in a very instructive and entertaining manner.

Remarks on the two preceding topics were also made by Revs. Dr. Brown, Andrew, S. B. Reed and Kelso.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Institute reassembled at 7½ o'clock.

Fifteen minutes were spent in devotional exercises, after which Maj. Wm. Frew opened the discussion on "Spending Part of the Exercises of the Sabbath School." The style and spirit with which these were conducted were on the key to the whole meeting. Promptitude is necessary. Begin with the time, if only one person is present. Select an appropriate hymn (as Rev. Dr. Wilson suggested, "Before a small portion of Scripture with spirit, distinctly and impressively. Would like well sometimes to give a short, running comment on the portion read. This must be done carefully and prayerfully.

The prayer should be short and not too comprehensive. Should be as expressive of the children's wants, simple in language pointed and direct to the occasion.

"Uniform Lessons," the next topic was opened by Rev. J. R. Kerr. As Beecher, who said, "Uniformity is a curse." Uniformity tends to concert of preparation and action on the part of teachers, and put the scholars or classes on an equality.

Rev. T. H. Hanna was heartily in favor of the uniform lessons.

J. G. Brown, D. D., was surprised that the idea of a general lesson should ever be opposed or that it could be thought a novelty. The lessons which he attended (thirty-eight years ago) used it. Remarks were made upon this subject by Revs. G. K. Ormond, Kelso, J. S. Sands and Wylie.

The discussion on the next subject, "Use of Illustrations," was opened by Mr. Ely, of Ohio, who said there were two ways of presenting truth—abstractly and by illustration. For children, illustration was by far the best. Illustrations should be frequent. Christ's discourses were full of them. Illustrations of truth are adapted to the understanding of the scholars. Illustrations should be drawn largely from the scriptures, and from the affairs of every day life.

Dr. Brown said we should never give an illustration simply for the sake of the illustration itself, but to inform and pay taxes by hard work, like to know the way it is expended.

Then again there is a growing opinion abroad, and not without good reason, that education is becoming less and less *thorough* and *efficient* in our public schools, too much time and attention is given to *forms, superficialities, showy authorities* and officer parade accomplishments; that theorizing and experimenting is too much the order of the day, and school performances can be had from the least competent teachers, material labor in one order of the day.

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ANOTHER BURGLARY.

Attempt to Blow Open a Safe and Set Fire to a Store.

Last night, about eleven o'clock, George Rudger, a watchman on Water street, noticed a light in the store of Phillips & Cluley, brass founders, on Water street, near Wood, and on entering to ascertain the cause found evidences of burglars about the establishment. On proceeding to the second story he found a number of desks had been broken open and drawers smashed in. Powder was found on the floor, and an attempt had been made to blow open the safe.

A fire had been kindled on the floor and had burned through, and a piece of burning coal which had dropped through to the first floor caused the light that attracted the attention of the watchman.

Return of a Wanderer—Result of Four Years of Dissipation.

About four years ago a young man, who was an esteemed merchant, and whose family resided in the now Seventeenth ward of this city, left to seek employment at his trade in the West. He wrote one or two letters shortly after he left home, and was not heard from again. Monday night a police officer saw a man passing along Penn avenue with no clothing except his pants and shirt. He was minus hat and boots. He inquired where he could find a place to stay over night, and from his appearance and conduct the officer concluded that the man must be suffering from *mania potu*. He took him to the station house, and in the morning he was able to tell where his clothes were. He recollected that he had hid them in a lumber yard off Penn avenue. The articles were found and returned to him, and, as he said he had relatives in that part of the city, visited them, but not seen for several years, he was released, and on Tuesday evening was found wandering about the streets again. His relatives were informed of the circumstance, and it was found that he was the young man who had left his home four years ago to seek his fortunes in the West. He appeared to be but a wreck of his former self, and hardly knew how he had managed to return to the city. It was the old story of bad habits and bad companions. He says he will be able to reform, and on yesterday taken to some friends in the country where it is expected that he will recover.

Public Amusements.

OPERA HOUSE.—The new play of "Snare, or What Money will Do," attracted a large audience last evening, a good proportion being ladies. The piece attempting to give the plot of the piece, which is somewhat of the usual sensational character, where villainy is punished and virtue rewarded, it may well be to be very interesting from the novelty and variety of the situations and from the excellent acting of Mrs. Bowers and those supporting her. The play was received with many tokens of approval from the audience being lavish of applause. Among those who deservedly sustained Mrs. Bowers' admirable performance were Georgie Dickson, who played a thankless *role* of great length, having only a few hours' rehearsal in which to study it, Miss Osborne, cast for the part, being sick.

THE RICHINGS TROUPE.—We learn that the Richings English Opera Company will not visit this city at present, Manager Canning having released them from their engagement in order that they may visit New Orleans. There is, it seems, no truth in the story that the company proposed to disband in this city, and the only foundation for the rumor that can be imagined is that they have changed their route for very good reasons. The company will visit Pittsburgh later in the season.

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1. Is it right for Sabbath School scholars to come to school on Sabbath in the street cars or railway trains? Answer by Mr. Howard. It depends entirely on circumstances.

2. Is the Sabbath School a proper place to teach Sacred Geography? A.—By Rev. W. H. Andrews, "I believe it is."

3. How can Sabbath Schools be best maintained in country congregations during the winter months? A—By Rev. Keiso, that he did not believe it possible. Rev. S. R. Reed said he had just come from a congregation where they hold Sabbath School in winter, and advised the worker in the country to get up early and go to work, and they can do it as well as we can in the city.

4. How can we raise money to carry on our Sabbath Schools efficiently? A—By Rev. G. K. Ormond—Put our hands into our own pockets, is the quickest.

The topic, "Art of securing attention, was then opened by Mr. Cyrus Hatch, in an earnest model speech.

1st. Let them *know*, study schools dispositions visit their houses, know their surroundings, remember they are precious in sight of God. 2d. Impress on their minds that you love them, and gain their affections and you will gain their attention. 3d. We must prepare the lesson thoroughly. It is not necessary to have a great store of knowledge, but think they must have a whole head full of communications. This is not the case. Find out what you do know. Don't get into what Dr. Hall calls "barrel organ" style. Simplify what you teach. We are too apt to feed the children on strong meat or abstract truth. We should illustrate what we teach.

The next subject, Art of Questioning, was opened by Prof. J. R. Newell, who dissented in a very instructive and entertaining manner.

Remarks on the two preceding topics were also made by Revs. Dr. Brown, Andrew, S. B. Reed and Kelso.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Institute reassembled at 7½ o'clock.

Fifteen minutes were spent in devotional exercises, after which Maj. Wm. Frew opened the discussion on "Spending Part of the Exercises of the Sabbath School." The style and spirit with which these were conducted were on the key to the whole meeting. Promptitude is necessary. Begin with the time, if only one person is present. Select an appropriate hymn (as Rev. Dr. Wilson suggested, "Before a small portion of Scripture with spirit, distinctly and impressively. Would like well sometimes to give a short, running comment on the portion read. This must be done carefully and prayerfully.

The prayer should be short and not too comprehensive. Should be as expressive of the children's wants, simple in language pointed and direct to the occasion.

"Uniform Lessons," the next topic was opened by Rev. J. R. Kerr. As Beecher, who said, "Uniformity is a curse." Uniformity tends to concert of preparation and action on the part of teachers, and put the scholars or classes on an equality.

Rev. T. H. Hanna was heartily in favor of the uniform lessons.

J. G. Brown, D. D., was surprised that the idea of a general lesson should ever be opposed or that it could be thought a novelty. The lessons which he attended (thirty-eight years ago) used it. Remarks were made upon this subject by Revs. G. K. Ormond, Kelso, J. S. Sands and Wylie.

The discussion on the next subject, "Use of Illustrations," was opened by Mr. Ely, of Ohio, who said there were two ways of presenting truth—abstractly and by illustration. For children, illustration was by far the best. Illustrations should be frequent. Christ's discourses were full of them. Illustrations of truth are adapted to the understanding of the scholars. Illustrations should be drawn largely from the scriptures, and from the affairs of every day life.

Dr. Brown said we should never give an illustration simply for the sake of the illustration itself, but to inform and pay taxes by hard work, like to know the way it is expended.

Then again there is a growing opinion abroad, and not without good reason, that education is becoming less and less *thorough* and *efficient* in our public schools, too much time and attention is given to *forms, superficialities, showy authorities* and officer parade accomplishments; that theorizing and experimenting is too much the order of the day, and school performances can be had from the least competent teachers, material labor in one order of the day.

That the book changing nuisance is regarded as a serious evil. Many parents assert that they now pay for books and other contingencies in the public schools in so-called free, more in the course of the year than the entire expense of the pay school amounted to in their own school days. The writer has in mind an instance within his own knowledge where an entire series of readers were recently ordered, again discarded and another ordered in its stead in a single year, of our new wards within a period of five years. Indeed, without intending to cast any reflection whatever on Mr. Anderson, his letter is not calculated to enlighten the public much on what is regarded as objectionable in the present management of our public schools.

CRITIC.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Explosion of a Still at the Crystal Oil Works—Still House and Two Tanks of Oil Burned—Loss $10,000—Partial Insurance.

A destructive fire occurred last evening at the Crystal Oil Works, owned by Livingston Bros., on the bank of the Allegheny river, a short distance above the Sharpsburg bridge, resulting in the loss of the still house, and the burning of a tank of crude oil, and a tank of benzine.

The fire originated in the explosion of a still, and the flames from the burning oil soon communicated to a tank of crude oil and a tank of benzine just above the still house, and these, together with the wood work of the still house were consumed.

The still house is situated on the bank of the river, and is separated from the other part of the works by the track of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, so that the flames were prevented from spreading further than above mentioned. The burning oil from the two tanks flowed over the river and created a sheet of flame that for a time threatened to set fire to the Sharpsburg Bridge. The still house was built of brick, and owing to this fact two of the stills, although slightly damaged, were not destroyed. A large number of empty barrels near the still house were burned, and some frame houses across the railroad track were saved with difficulty.

The loss is estimated at about $10,000, on which there is a partial insurance.

An alarm was sounded at half-past five o'clock from box No. 75, corner of Butler and Forty-eighth streets, the fire department of the district responded promptly and the engine remained until ten o'clock, at which hour the fire was nearly extinguished. The Hook and Ladder Company was early at the fire but their services were not needed.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Common Pleas—Judge Sterrett.

In the case of Ludwig Schmidt vs. Emory Brotherton, reported yesterday, the jury found for the plaintiff the sum of $58 82.

Samuel Hibler vs. John Kenly. Action on a judgment note. Plea, set off. The defense was, that there was no consideration for the note, and consequently nothing was owing. On trial.

MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL.

C. B. M. Smith, counsel for James McK. Snodgrass, in the suit against Wm. H. Hill's executors, made a motion for a new trial, for the following reasons: 1. The Court unintentionally misled the jury by its charge to this effect, in regard to the plaintiff, in connection with the alleged settlement: "What would a prudent man have done under the circumstances?" when the question for the jury was, not what a prudent man would have done under the circumstances, but what did the plaintiff do. 2. The Court unintentionally misled the jury as to the importance and force of Hammer's testimony, by reading it to the jury. 3. The plaintiff has since discovered testimony which he believes will have an important bearing on the case. 4. The verdict was against the law. 5. The verdict was against the weight of evidence.

The following is the trial list for to-day:

No. 184, Kennedy vs. Dilbridge.
No. 218, Steen vs. Gilmore.
No. 342, Jenkins vs. McClaren.
No. 353, Hall vs. Ross.
No. 364, Reed vs. Clark.
No. 365, Monroe vs. Hays.
No. 377, Dornhoff vs. Same.
No. 380, Stewart vs. McElhenny.
No. 385, Marcum, Gripe & Co. vs. Garrard and wife.
No. 393, Poland vs. Neeland.
No. 395, Duthett vs. Kennedy and wife.
No. 396, First National Bank of Clarion vs. Duff et al.
No. 399, Schmidt & Co. vs. Wagoner.

District Court—Judge Kirkpatrick.

In the case of Wilson vs. Wilson, reported before Judge Hampton; the jury found for the plaintiff in sum of $16 64.

In the case of Duff vs. Wilson, previously reported, the jury found for the plaintiff $3,220.

Another action was brought by the same parties, (Duff vs. Wilson) being an action in ejectment, which is still on trial.

The following is the trial list for to-day:

No. 98, O. L.; Leahy vs. Nobbs.
No. 131, St. Andrew's Church vs. Hoag.
No. 123, Harrison vs. Brereton & Wilkins.
No. 151, Irwin vs. Shaffer & Brandon.
No. 168, Trimble vs. Williams.
No. 169, Sturges Arnold & Co. vs. Shields' gear.
No. 171, Robensteln vs. P. F. and M. Turnpike Co.
No. 172, Simpson vs. Gilmore.
No. 64, Rees vs. Gilmore.
No. 145, Lewis vs. Johnston and wife.

ALLEGHENY.

THE NEW CITY CODE.—The special meeting of Councils, called for Monday evening, is for the purpose of taking action on the new city code.

A DRAWN BATTLE.—An Alderman and Assessor, who shall be nameless, indulged in a rough and tumble fight the other day, which resulted in a draw battle, but not before the Alderman lost a portion of his whiskers, and the solitary optic of the Assessor was draped in mourning.

BURNED.—A daughter of John Jahns, a resident of the Eighth ward, while engaged about the fire, on Monday night, accidentally set fire to her clothing. Fortunately her father was present, and with commendable presence of mind succeeded in smothering the flames, burning his hands severely in doing so.

HEALING THE SICK.

The Days of Miracles not Past—Troy Hill the Modern Mecca—An Hour with Father Mollinger.

In our rambles in the upper portion of the city, we have frequently heard mention of the remarkable cures said to be effected, by whose powers, according to report were miraculous. The broad statement was reiterated that hundreds found relief from all forms of disease by the healing ministry of Father Mollinger. As we encountered crowds wending to and from the point of attraction, there was little room to question the truthfulness of the assertion. During all kinds of weather, wet or dry, raw or cold, crowds of men, women and children can be seen on the last four weeks has converged the pavements leading directly to the board walk which winds terrace like around Troy Hill. The other day the corridor of a street car assured us that he had carried upwards of a hundred passengers in two morning trips, to the terminus of the street railway, and that a row of Jew minutes walk of the base of the hill. To neighborhood is prosperously resided in. The Monongahela borough, and is employed as stables boss at the Glenlon iron mill. One of the about three months ago he left the house to go to the stable, and while he was gone the team was stolen. He had previously seen Campbell in that locality. A commitment for larceny has been lodged against the accused.

MALICIOUS MISCHIEF.

Nicholas Feld made information against a crowd of young men for malicious mischief. Their names are James, Charles and Joseph Leech, Levi Tarr, Joseph Little, William Klinzing and Con Russell, and the information sets forth that on the 15th inst., Tuesday night, the defendants visited the premises of deponent in East Birmingham, broke down his gate and fence and fired a cannon in front thereof, and also broke down the kitchen door. Failing in obtaining admittance they assaulted the wife of deponent's family in a shameful manner by calling them the most disgraceful names. Warrants for the arrest of the accused, were issued, and it is to be hoped when apprehended they will be punished to the full extent provided by law.

A Beautiful Retired Dwelling

For rent, containing 9 rooms, with outbuildings, hot and cold water, bath, hood and coal and carriage house. Large garden with shade, fruit trees and shrubbery of all kinds, at Mansfield station, Eighteenth ward. Apply at the residence of Judge McCandless. For particulars inquire of Thomas Marks & Co., 54 Liberty street, Brush and Nolton Store, corner of Wood street. TFtus

What Does Reason Say?

The little mongoose when bitten by a deadly serpent resorts to a certain plant, eats of it, and escapes the effects of the poison. This is instinct. Human beings on the other hand, must expend on reason and experience in selecting the means of counteracting health and life against unwholesome influences. Now, what reason can say on this subject is this: Does it not tell us that to invigorate and purify the system is the best way to protect it against the invisible poison which generates disease? surely it does. The next question is, what guide shall we follow in choosing a "safeguard?" Reason replies let your monitor be experience. Well, the experience of eigh